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March 1977

STATE

MONTANA Employment and Labor Force

MONTHLY REPORT

STATE OF MONTANA
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION
P. O. BOX 1728
HELENA MONTANA
59601

JOB SERVICE

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MONTANA EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR FORCE

MONTHLY REPORT

MARCH 1977

STATE OF MONTANA

THOMAS L. JUDGE, GOVERNOR

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY
Box 1728
Helena, Montana 59601

Volume 7 Number 3

Produced by:
Research and Analysis
in cooperation with the
U. S. Department of Labor
Employment and Training Administration
and Bureau of Labor Statistics

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

1. Civilian Labor Force - the number of persons 16 years and older, defined as employed or unemployed, excluding members of the Armed Forces.

2. Employed - those persons who work for pay or profit during a week or, as unpaid family workers, work 15 hours or more during a week. Also included as employed are those who, although not working, had some job attachment and were not looking for work, including persons temporarily absent from a job due to illness, bad weather, vacation, or labor-management dispute, whether or not they were in a pay status during their time off.

3. Unemployment - the number of persons who, for an entire week, did not work at all, were able to work and available for work, and (1) were looking for work or (2) would have looked for work except that (a) they were waiting to return to a job from which they had been laid off, or (b) they were waiting to report to a new wage and salary job scheduled to start within the following 30 days (and were not in school during the week).

4. Unemployment Rate - the number of unemployed expressed as a percent of the civilian labor force.

5. Residence Data - a count of employment by where people live.

6. Establishment Data - a count of employment by where people work.

7. Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force Series - to facilitate the evaluation of the labor force, recurrent yearly movements have been isolated and removed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics seasonal factor method.

8. Composite Index - an aggregate of six leading indicators. The indicators used are: Manufacturing - Employment, Average Weekly Hours, total Accessions and Layoffs; Average Weekly Initial Claims; and statewide Building Permits. A reverse trend was used for Layoffs and Average Weekly Initial Claims. This composite index is in no manner or form comparable to the United States composite index as published in "Business Conditions Digest", U. S. Department of Commerce.

9. Real Spendable Average Weekly Earnings of Private Nonagricultural Production Workers - represents the earnings of a hypothetical individual after deductions for State Income, Federal Income and Social Security taxes, and adjustment for change in purchasing power since 1967. This individual is assumed to be sole support for a family of four, earn the average weekly gross earnings of production workers in Montana's private nonagricultural industries, and take standard deductions on State and Federal income taxes. Taxes were computed using standard tax tables, and purchasing power was adjusted by deflating Spendable Earnings based on the national Consumer Price Index.

10. WIN - Work Incentive Program for Aid to Dependent Children recipients.

11. CETA - Comprehensive Employment and Training Act of 1974.

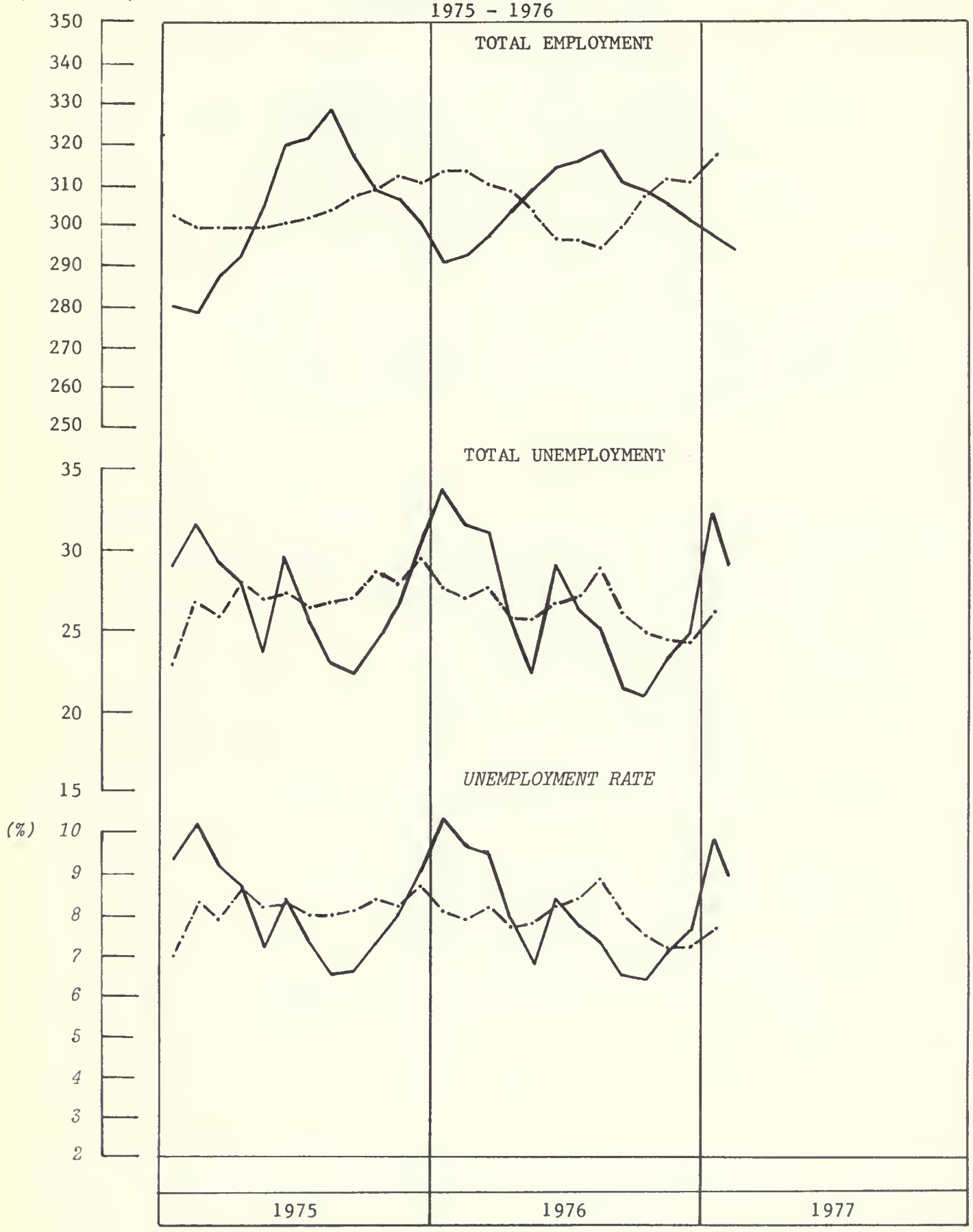
12. CETA-CEP - Concentrated Employment Program funded under the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act.

13. SMSA - Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area as determined by Office of Management and Budget. Must have a central city with population of 50,000 or more.

14. LMA - Labor Market Area as determined by the Montana Employment Security Division consists of a central city or cities with population of less than 50,000, and the economically integrated geographical area surrounding it.

MONTANA EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT, AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

(NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED: ——)
(SEASONALLY ADJUSTED: ·-·-)
1975 - 1976



BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT FIGURES, VS ACTUAL STATE OF MONTANA EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

The Bureau of Labor statistics compiles national unemployment on the basis of a monthly Current Population Survey (C.P.S.). Twenty-seven states have large enough samples to enable the Bureau to determine those state's unemployment rate. Twenty-three states, in which Montana is included, must determine their unemployment by means of a statistical formula. Because of the difference in methodology, when C.P.S. states are added to non-C.P.S. states, the unemployment rate differs from that of the "National" rate.

Early in 1976 the Office of Management and Budget mandated that the Bureau of Labor Statistics force the aggregate of all states to equal the national C.P.S. estimates. March 4, 1976, this agency was mandated by the Bureau to adjust the state unemployment rate for 1975 and throughout 1976 downward. All states in B. L. S. Region VIII received the same adjustment factors. Analysis of these adjustment factors indicatesthat Montana's unemployment rate would arbitrarily be reduced and end results would be misleading and not representative of Montana's actual economic conditions. Therefore, because this agency owes the public in Montana the most reliable and consistent figures available, Montana's Employment Security Research and Analysis Section will continue to publish what is felt are actual unemployment statistics in this publication. This agency will furnish the Bureau with adjusted figures on required reports, but Montana will not publish them.

Because of the above, Bureau of Labor Statistics publications will not agree with statistics as <u>published</u> by Montana's Employment Security Research and Analysis Section.

MONTANA 1976: ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

Early in 1976 Montana's construction activity provided a stimulus for employment gains in several industries. At the beginning of the 2nd quarter it appeared that the recession might be replaced by a period of accelerated growth. However, as summer approached, it was evident that the boom was very temporary. In June the unemployment rate jumped to 8.4% after declining to 6.8% by May. The Composite Index of leading economic indicators fell to 95.7 from 100.5 in April. Generally a slowdown was noted in all areas, and skepticism grew in many sectors of the economy. Yet the construction industry continued to maintain a steady pace, and bank debits in the state (a good estimate of spending for goods and services) were still running 30% above the previous year's totals.

In the 3rd and 4th quarters, activity in manufacturing picked up. Employment edged up slightly and production hours saw sizable increases. Construction did slacken with the arrival of winter weather; however, during this period Montana's Composite Index climbed above 100.0 and has remained there ever since. During 1976, Montana added 1,700 workers to payrolls over 1975 levels and decreased the unemployment rolls by 900 over the same period. Thus we ended the year on firm ground, preparing for a better year.

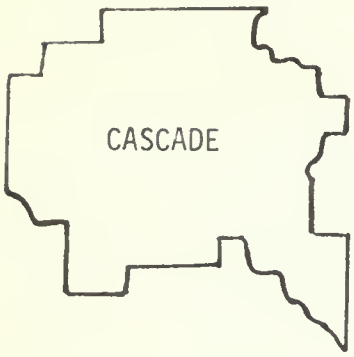
HIGHLIGHTS: FEBRUARY 1977

The month of February saw considerable improvements in Montana's employment situation. The unemployment rate dropped to 9.0% from 9.8% in January, while claims for unemployment insurance decreased about 9.0%. The primary force behind this decrease in claims was the reduction of claimants from the construction industry. In particular, claimants attached to building construction decreased by 18.2% during the period. Further examination of claims characteristics revealed that claims filed by females declined 9.7% - males 8.8%. In February females were responsible for 26.9% of the total claims load in the state. The only significant month-to-month increases were noted in female claimants with an occupational attachment in banking and in male claimants last employed in food stores. Otherwise the job market appears to be improving for both males and females throughout the state.

Montana's economic indicators are mixed but continue to reflect a pattern of economic growth in the coming months. Manufacturing activity cooled in February; the cuts in hydroelectric power or at least anticipated shortages forced several firms to trim total production hours. This is evident in weekly rate levels, where lack of overtime work lowered the average to $174.65, a .7% decrease. Also, Average Weekly Hours in manufacturing dropped to 40.5 from 42.5 in January. As industrial activity softened, construction activity in the state exploded. Building permits increased over 100% from January to February. February totals are 45% above totals from the same period one year ago. With the advent of the state's low-interest housing loan money, building activity should witness even further expansion in March and April. It now appears that in 1977 Montana will have a housing construction year second to none. This increased activity in the housing market should spill over into all segments of the economy.

Nevertheless, Montana remains at the mercy of weather conditions and resultant energy problems. The potential for real economic growth in Montana exists, but the severity of any drought conditions may have the last word in shaping Montana's near economic future.

GREAT FALLS SMSA (Cascade County)



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

In February, the Great Falls SMSA's employed labor force increased 100 from the previous month to 30,500. At the same time, the number of jobless declined 500 to 2,500 individuals, bringing February's unemployment rate to 7.5% from 8.9% recorded for January.

GREAT FALLS.

February Claims Characteristics by Job Service Office

	Percent of All Continued Claims	Percent Change from the Previous Month
Males	73%	-18%
Females	27%	-13%

Last Industry or Occupation of the Unemployed

Male		Females	
Heavy and Highway Construction	17%	Clerical and Sales Occupations	49%

During 1976, a monthly average of 33,500 individuals participated in the civilian labor force. This is a 2.4% gain over 1975, when the labor force averaged 32,700 monthly. The average number of jobholders during 1976 was 30,900 (a 3% increase over 1975). About 1,400 were employed in agriculture, and the wholesale and retail trade sector led all industries with 8,600 or 30% of the non-farm wage and salary employment. Services and government followed with 6,600 and 5,900 respectively.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

In the first two months of 1977, 76 new businesses entered the Great Falls SMSA, compared with 55 in the same period one year ago. In February, 192 new cars were registered in the labor area; 60 building permits were issued in the city of Great Falls. Of particular significance was the 132% increase in bank debits in Great Falls for the twelve month total through January. Construction is expected to begin in late March on a $4 million, seven-story, 180-room motel complex. A new 142 acre industrial park has been approved and the process of attracting in-state and out-of-state industrial firms to the development has begun. The development executive director stated that the corporation is particularly interested in firms dealing in wholesale trades, industrial and agricultural sales and services, and light manufacturing. A $1.2 million special improvement district for the construction of curbs, streets, etc. will be awarded in mid-March. Construction will receive added impetus from the state-supported mortgage money that will be available this spring. Lending institutions in Great Falls were allocated $4.45 million, and it is estimated that all of these funds will soon be committed. The outlook for the economy of Great Falls is improving and a stimulation of business activity this spring can be anticipated.

BILLINGS SMSA (Yellowstone County)

Employment and Unemployment Situation:

In February, 50,400 individuals were participating in the Billings SMSA labor pool. A total of 47,100 held jobs during February, unchanged from the preceding month. The jobless rolls fell 500 to 3,300 or 6.7% of the civilian labor force. This compares with 7.5% in January and 7.0% in February 1976.

BILLINGS

February Claim Characteristics by Job Service Office

	Percent of All Continued Claims	Percent Change from the Previous Month
Males	80%	-6%
Females	20%	-13%

Last Industry or Occupation of the Unemployed

Males		Females	
Heavy and Highway Construction	22%	Eating and Drinking Places	17%

At 49,300, the Billings SMSA's 1976 labor force grew 3.4% from the 1975 average of 47,700. Despite the recovery from the recession, the past year's labor pool expansion was less than 1974-1975 annual growth of 3.9%. In other words, 1976 represented a year of re-uniting existing unemployed persons with an expanding job market. This was witnessed by the 4.3% growth in total employment, which averaged 46,400 persons during 1976.

The largest growth was felt in the following industries: manufacturing 5.9%, finance, insurance, and real estate 10.5%, trade and construction 4.8%. In regard to unemployment, an average of 2,900 individuals were unemployed during 1976, 9.4% less than in 1975. The area's unemployment rate averaged 5.9%, compared with 6.7% in 1975.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Building permits jumped from 50 last month to 150 in February. It still appears that 1977 will be another active year for the building construction industry. In fact, some economists are forecasting 1977 residential housing starts on a national basis second only to the record year in 1972. In Billings, 1182 housing units were started during the first 11 months of 1976. The city issued 664 permits for single family residences, 51 for duplexes, and 47 for other multi-unit dwellings.

A large grocery chain opened its fourth store in Billings this past month. The store is located near the city's new shopping mall and employs about 65 people. Also, a large restaurant chain opened its third Billings facility during March, creating jobs for about 25-30 persons. About 150 workers were laid off, as the sugar beet campaign ended at the Billings plant. Normally, 90 to 100 workers are retained year-round for plant maintenance, but during 1977, an additional 40 people are expected to be utilized for scheduled improvements.

During 1976, the Billings SMSA experienced a year of labor force and employment growth, particularly in manufacturing, real estate, wholesale and retail trade, and government. At the same time, bank debits, a rough measure of spending activities, climbed 16% from 1975 levels. New housing unit starts and new business formations both increased 46%. Economic signs point to a growth year for the Billings SMSA.

ANACONDA-BUTTE LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation:

In February, the number of labor force participants stood at 32,400, 1.7% below the same month in 1976. The number of employed persons totaled 28,900, down 200 from January. However, total unemployment did not change from January when 3,500 were out of work.

February's unemployment rate hit 10.7%, compared with 10.8% in January and 12.3% in February one year ago. All three job service offices in the Anaconda-Butte labor market area reported drops in the number of male and female claimants in February. The male claimants were primarily last engaged in building trades or metal mining, and the female claimants were primarily from the retail and service industries.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Bank debits for the twelve month period through January 1977, rose 12% in Butte, and declined 2% in Anaconda. In February, 26 new businesses were formed in the six-county area. This brought the 1977 total to 65, compared with 32 new firms in the first two months of 1976.

The March job developments in the Anaconda area were quite mixed. The smelter scheduled an additional lay-off of over 50 workers during the month, while in Deer Lodge, the prison hired another 60 people. In general, the area is still in the middle of its seasonal low, with excess labor supply in nearly all occupational categories.

Butte businessmen reported a similar job market, although there have been some hires in restaurants and the medical field. The city now has or soon will have several new enterprises including: a bank, a pool hall and lounge, a car sales firm, and a cheese shop-lounge.

BOZEMAN LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation:

The employed work force stood at 20,900 in February, 300 less than January and 1,300 less than February 1976. At the same time, the number of unemployed declined 200 from January to 2,000 people, or 8.6% of the area's labor pool.

The Bozeman job service office experienced a decline in claims for both males and females, with 33% of the males attached to the construction industry, and 22% of the female claimants last employed in either motel-hotels or eating and drinking places. In the Livingston office, claims filed by males remained unchanged from January, while the female claimant load dropped 17%.

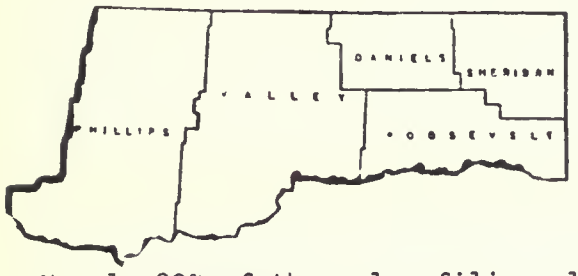
Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

In February, 48 new business firms were established in the Bozeman labor market area. New business formations in the first two months of 1977 are 50 ahead of last year's levels. Bank debits for the twelve month period through January rose by 6% and 16% for Bozeman and Livingston, respectively.

Main street merchants in Bozeman reported a continuing late winter sales slump. New business developments include: a new 50-unit motel, a record store, and a carpet remnant-ceramic tile store. Nearing completion is an ice cream parlor that when finished, should employ about 30 to 40 people. The Bozeman job service office reported that building construction is proceeding at a heightened pace, in comparison with normal late winter seasons, although highway construction continues in a dormant stage.

GLASGOW LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation:



A total of 15,300 individuals participated in the labor force in February, representing a yearly growth rate of 4.8% from February 1976. The number of employed persons showed a 200 drop from the previous month, leveling off at 14,000. The number of jobless did not change from January - 1,300, or 8.8% of the civilian labor force.

Nearly 23% of the males filing claims in the Glasgow office were formerly employed in miscellaneous business services, while over one-half of the female claimants were clerical and sales workers. In contrast, the oil and gas industry accounted for 13% of the unemployed male claimants in the Wolf Point office.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

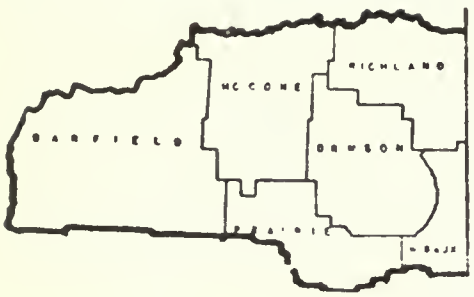
The city of Glasgow experienced an 8% slide in January's bank debits, although the city posted a 11% gain for the twelve month total through January. Despite an increase in Valley County, new business formations in the first two months of 1977 displayed negative trends - 20% behind January and February totals in 1976.

The Glasgow job service office reported that the new hospital in Glasgow is now about 40% completed. Plans were submitted for a new motel complex for the city, with an expected opening date of July 1977. The motel will provide jobs for about 40 people when finished. The highway on the west end of Glasgow may be expanded from the present two-lane to a four-lane highway.

The city of Poplar is planning the construction of a sewer project at a cost of nearly $750,000. The Wolf Point office announced that a housing project involving as many as 40 houses may be starting in early April. Other projects include two bus garages at a cost of $200,000 and cultural tourism centers in Poplar and Brockton funded under a $900,000 E.D.A. grant.

GLENDIVE LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation:



In February, the labor force in the Glendive labor area stood at 12,500; of these, 11,700 were employed, 300 less that the previous month. The jobless rolls fell 200 from last month to 800. Consequently, the Glendive area shared the lowest unemployment rate in the state with Billings at 6.7%

February claim statistics revealed a 6% decline in total claims filed in the Glendive job service office, and a 15% decline in the Sidney office. The largest percentage of males were unemployed construction workers, while females most frequently reported eating and drinking places and lodging places as their last industry of employment.

Ecomonic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

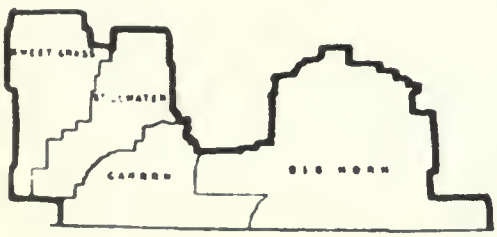
Bank debits for the twelve month period through January are ahead of the previous one year period by 12% and 13% in Glendive and Sidney, respectively. In the first two months of 1977, 11 new businesses entered the six-county Glendive labor market area. In comparison with 1976, only McCone and Dawson counties showed negative year-to-year changes, although an accurate trend can not be ascertained with two months data.

In Glendive, retail activity has reportedly been slow since the first of the year. Like most of the state's labor areas, the mild weather has allowed building construction to continue throughout much of the winter. In regard to highway construction, several contractors have begun to repair and maintain equipment, and they should begin recalling workers in the next couple of weeks.

Late last month a sugar beet manufacturer from Colorado announced that due to high transportation cost and low prices, all contracts with farmers in the Sidney-Miles City area will be suspended as of last year's harvest. A team was sent to speak with plant officials and a restoration was brought about for about 27,000 acres in the Sidney - Glendive and Miles City areas. Last year area farmers sold the harvest on approximately 30,000 acres. Since many farmers had already purchased seeds for this year's crop, a severe economic impact was avoided by the additional one-year contract.

HARDIN - RED LODGE LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation:

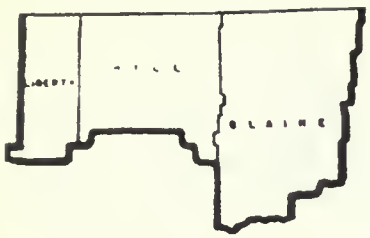


At 10,800, the labor force in the Hardin - Red Lodge labor area dropped 2.7% from February one year ago. The number of job holders stood at 9,900, down 200 from January and 300 from February 1976. With February's 200 decline in unemployment, it appears that winter unemployment peaked in January. February's jobless rate hit 8.4%, compared with 9.8% last month.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Cumulative new car registrations for the first two months of 1977 totaled 63, compared with 76 one year ago. Fourteen new businesses were created in the four-county area in the same time period. Totals by county were the following: Big Horn - 6, Carbon - 2, Stillwater - 5, Sweet Grass - 1.

HAVRE LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

The Havre LMA's labor pool totaled 11,800 for February, 9.3% above the same month one year ago. Of these, 10,900 held jobs which is down 200 from the previous month and 800 above February 1976. A total of 900 were unemployed in February, 7.5% of the civilian labor force.

February claim statistics for the Havre local employment office revealed that the number of males filing claims dropped 3% from January, while the number of female claimants rose 1%. Building trades people and clerical and sales workers accounted for the largest percentage of males and females filing claims.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

A total of 17 new businesses have been formed in the Havre LMA in the months of January and February. This represents a 21% increase over 1976 levels. In January bank debits in Havre were 15% above January 1976, and the twelve month total through January 1977 was 43% above the previous 12 month period. Also, a total of 11 building permits were issued in the city in the first two months of this year, over twice the number issued last year for the same period.

The Havre job service office reported that many of the area building contractors are recalling workers as spring construciton projects are now underway. In fact, hiring activity has improved throughout the non-agricultural sector, although mainly in wholesale and retail trade.

HELENA LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation:

Helena's employed labor force remained unchanged from January at 21,900, although unemployment fell 200 to 1,600 individuals February's unemployment rate hit 6.9%, compared to 7.5% in January and 8% for February one year ago.

The number of continued claims filed for unemployment insurance declined 3% in February according to statistics released from the Helena job service office. Of claims filed, males accounted for 64% and females 36%.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

In the city of Helena, 31 building permits were issued in February, bringing the 1977 cumulative total to 46 permits. Also, enhancing the positive economic atmosphere in the Helena area, was the 25% climb in bank debits for the one-year period through January. At the same time, new business formations for the three county area totaled 48 for January and February, over 60% above last year.

The overall economic outlook for the Helena labor area remains very good. With a strong government employment center as a base, the construction, trade and service sectors have expanded, especially over the past two years. Despite a normal seasonal downturn, retailers have reported good sales with new shops continuing to open and especially in Helena's downtown mall. Currently, most of the calls received in the Helena job service office have been for waiter-waitresses, cooks and sales help.

KALISPELL LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation:

In February, 30,600 individuals either held jobs or were actively seeking employment in the Kalispell labor area. The number of employed persons totaled 26,300, 300 fewer than last month, but 10.5% above February 1976. Those seeking work included 4,300, 200 less than in January. The area's labor market made some definite gains, yet the jobless rate, 14%, was still highest of all labor areas in the state.

Of the three employment offices in the Kalispell labor area, Kalispell experienced the largest decline in claims, males fell 8% and females 14%. The Polson and Libby offices felt very little change from January. Among males, the lumber and wood industry claimed from 19% to 28% of the claimants in the three job offices. While, eating and drinking places accounted for about one-fifth of all females.

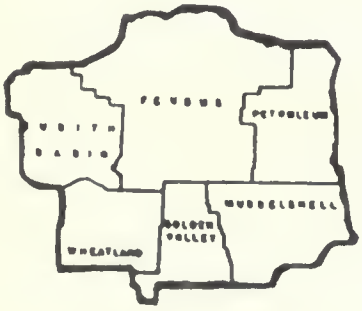
Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

New businesses in the first two months of 1977 rose 61% from 1976 levels, with all three counties experiencing positive movements. In January, bank debits totaled over $99 million in the city of Kalispell, which represents a 40% increase over January 1976.

At present, unemployment is quite high among loggers. The warm weather has caused an early spring break-up forcing hauling restrictions in area forests. Late March and April storms could prolong the situation affecting logging payrolls, as well as subsequent spending in the retail service sector.

A California based electronics firm has plans to operate a small assembly plant in Whitefish. The tenative plans include hiring of 15 assembly workers and 5 professional-management positions. The aluminum plant in Columbia Falls is in the process of converting to a Japanese smelting method. About 10-15 iron workers will be hired along with 5 to 6 electricians.

LEWISTOWN LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation:

In February the civilian labor pool encompassed 9,400 individuals. A total of 8,400 were jobholders, 200 fewer than the previous month. An additional 100 people joined the jobless rolls in February, which brought the jobless rate to 10.8% from 9.8% in January.

In the Lewistown office nearly 29% of males filing claims for unemployment insurance were highway construction workers. Females accounted for 18% of all filed claims, of which over one-half were last employed in some sector of the service industry.

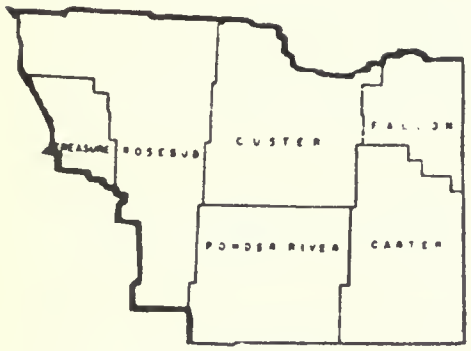
Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

In the first two months of 1977, 20 new business concerns entered the Lewistown labor market area. Bank debits for the twelve month total through January showed a 43% gain over the previous year in the city of Lewistown.

The gypsum plant near Lewistown has plans of adding a fourth work shift in the near future. This will definitely provide an economic boost to the area, although it is not known just how many additional people will be hired.

MILES CITY LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation:



At 13,800, the civilian labor force in February was 5.5% below the same month one year ago. A total of 12,800 individuals were employed, down 200 from the previous month. At the same time, 200 individuals left the jobless rolls, although 1000 were still without jobs, which represents 7.2% of the civilian labor force.

The Miles City job service office reported a 7% climb in male claimants, contrasted by a 5% drop in the number of female claim filers. About 37% of the unemployed males were highway construction workers and 19% of the females were last employed in eating and drinking places.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

January bank debits in Miles City declined 11% from the same month last year, but the twelve month total through January was ahead 14% over the previous one-year period. Twelve new business firms were formed in the six-county area in February, bringing the 1977 total to 23, compared with 19 one year ago.

At present, several construction firms are servicing their equipment, as highway construction is expected to begin in the next several weeks. This will have a definite positive impact on the local job market. (As stated earlier, 37% of the male claimants were highway construction workers.) The job service office has reported a shortage of experienced mechanics.

MISSOULA LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation:

The civilian labor force experienced a negative 1.4% growth rate from February 1976 to February 1977. Employment totaled 37,500 in February, 200 less than January. However, unemployment fell 500 to 4,700 individuals. February's unemployment rate was 11.0% down from 12.1% in January and 11.6% in February 1976.

The claims load dropped in all three employment offices in the Missoula labor market area. Among males, the lumber and wood industry accounted for the largest percentage of unemployed, ranging from 14% of all males in Missoula to 45% in Thompson Fall's office. About 19% of the females filing claims in the Missoula office stated that their last place of employment was in an eating or drinking establishment. However, nearly one-half of the females last held a clerical or sales position.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Bank debits, a good indicator of spending activities in the Missoula community, totaled $485 million in January, 26% higher than January 1976. The city issued 109 building permits in January and February, and 110 housing unit starts. In the first two months of 1977, 107 new businesses were formed in the four-county area, with 84 originating in Missoula

County. This represents a 42% jump over the same period last year.

The unusually warm weather in the northwestern part of the state has played havoc with the logging industry. It is estimated that 300 to 400 loggers have been idled in the Missoula job service area. About 5 people were rehired at a sawmill near Hall. The mill producing rough dimension lumber and cross ties made the decision to resume production.

Missoula's trade industry continues to grow with the latest entry being a 60,000 sq. ft. warehouse and catalog showroom store. The volume oriented store is scheduled to be constructed within 1977.

The Thompson Falls office reports that two sawmills, one in Thompson Falls, and one in Plains, laid off their night shift crews affecting about 50 workers. It is not known whether this cutback is temporary or permanent.

The saw mill work force in the Hamilton area is reportedly stable, although placement activity is at a seasonal low, with some scattered hiring in construction, domestic and manufacturing.

The main activities in the agricultural sector have been feeding, and calving. The latter is approximately 15% completed. Also, there have been some potato sorting activities in the Hamilton area.

SHELBY - CUT BANK LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation:

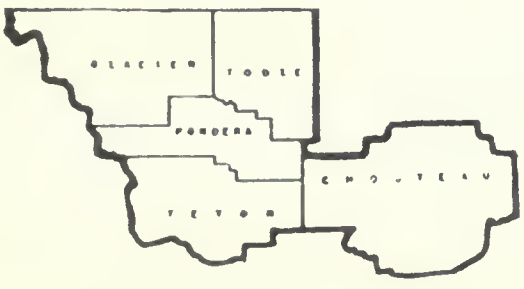
February's employed work force stood at 13,600 in the Shelby - Cut Bank labor market area. This compares with 13,900 in January and 14,500 in February 1976. On an annual basis, the number of employed persons dropped 6.2% from last year. With a 200 drop in unemployment, February's jobless rate fell to 8.3% from the 9.5% recorded for January.

The building construction industry accounted for 31% of the male claimants in the Cut Bank office and 21% in the Shelby office. Nearly half of the female claimants last filled clerical or sales occupations.

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

In February, 12 new businesses entered the Five-County labor area. This brought the 1977 total to 38, over 80% above the first two months of 1976. In Cut Bank, January bank debits hit 17.8% above the same month a year ago.

The retail industry will be expanding this spring in Cut Bank. A new shopping center is being built, and plans have been given to sub-contractors for bids on the complex. When completed, the shopping center will contain space for 16 stores. It was announced that three business concerns have already committed to moving into the new shopping complex. The local building industry should also receive a boost during 1977, as 15 new homes are scheduled to be constructed this spring.



MANPOWER PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

FEBRUARY 1977

Program	New Enrollees	Job Placements	End of Month Enrollment
WIN	255	89	2,167
CETA-CEP	88	64	262
CETA-INST.	125	61	500
CETA-OJT	52	17	121
JOB CORPS	46	20	269
PSE TITLE II	73	36	263
PSE TITLE VI	71	20	741

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - U. S.[1/]

(1967 = 100)

Group	Feb. 1977	*Percent Change From:* Jan. 1977	Feb. 1976
All Items	177.1	*1.0%*	*6.0%*

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE UNEMPLOYED[2/]

JANUARY 1977

Social Characteristics	*Percent of Total Covered Unemployment*
Non-White	*4.7%*
Female	*24.9%*
Youth	*9.6%*
Over 45	*24.9%*

1/ The Consumer Price Index measures changes in prices of goods and services bought by urban wage earners and clerical workers, including families and single persons.

2/ Based on 20% sample of Continued Claims filed during the week including the 19th of each month in all local offices.

Table I

MONTANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute 2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent 1/ Montana	Percent 1/ U. S.	
1975								
January	308.7	279.8	253.0	26.8	28.9	*9.4*	*9.0*	*
February	309.6	278.2	250.8	27.4	31.4	*10.2*	*9.1*	.1
March	316.6	287.3	257.1	30.2	29.3	*9.2*	*9.1*	.3
April	320.3	292.3	259.4	32.9	28.0	*8.7*	*8.6*	.2
May	327.9	304.3	267.3	37.0	23.6	*7.2*	*8.3*	.1
June	349.1	319.7	278.9	40.8	29.4	*8.4*	*9.1*	.1
July	346.9	321.3	279.1	42.2	25.6	*7.4*	*8.7*	.2
August	350.9	327.9	280.7	47.2	23.0	*6.6*	*8.2*	*
September	340.2	317.7	279.3	38.4	22.5	*6.6*	*8.1*	.3
October	332.6	308.4	274.4	34.0	24.2	*7.3*	*7.8*	.3
November	332.4	305.8	274.3	31.5	26.6	*8.0*	*7.8*	.2
December	330.7	300.6	271.4	29.2	30.1	*9.1*	*7.8*	.2
1975 Avg.	330.5	303.6	268.8	34.8	26.9	*8.1*	*8.5*	.1
1976								
January	324.8	291.2	262.4	28.8	33.6	*10.3*	*8.8*	*
February	323.6	292.1	263.3	28.8	31.5	*9.7*	*8.7*	*
March	328.3	297.3	265.8	31.5	31.0	*9.5*	*8.1*	*
April	328.6	302.8	267.8	35.0	25.8	*7.9*	*7.4*	*
May	330.4	308.1	271.0	37.1	22.3	*6.8*	*6.7*	*
June	343.0	314.1	273.0	41.1	28.9	*8.4*	*8.0*	.1
July	341.6	315.3	275.2	40.1	26.3	*7.7*	*7.8*	.1
August	341.4	318.0	273.3	44.7	23.4	*6.9*	*7.6*	.1
September	330.1	309.9	274.3	35.6	20.2	*6.1*	*7.4*	.1
October	329.0	308.0	275.1	32.9	21.0	*6.4*	*7.2*	.1
November	328.5	305.2	276.0	29.2	23.3	*7.1*	*7.4*	.1
December	326,0	301,3	275.4	25.9	24.7	*7.6*	*7.4*	.1
1976 Avg.	331.3	305.3	271.1	34.2	26.0	*7.8*	*7.7*	.1
1977								
January	323.8	292.1	270.9	21.2	31.7	*9.8*	*8.3*	.1
February	323.6	294.6	271.5	23.1	29.0	*9.0*	*8.5*	.1
March	328.4	302.1	274.3	27.8	26.3	*8.0*	*7.9*	.1
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ Computed from whole (unrowided) numbers. *Series began January 1970.*

2/ Non-additive - included in total employment. *Revised to 1975 Benchmarks.*

* *Under 50.* *Current month in italics is a forecast; previous month preliminary.*

RESIDENCE DATA

Table II

GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)

Civilian Labor Force

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute[2/]
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent[1/] County	Percent[1/] State	
1975								
January	31.1	28.5	27.4	1.1	2.6	*8.3*	*9.4*	*
February	31.2	28.2	27.1	1.1	3.0	*9.7*	*10.2*	*
March	31.8	29.0	27.8	1.2	2.8	*8.7*	*9.2*	.1
April	32.5	29.8	28.5	1.3	2.7	*8.3*	*8.7*	.1
May	32.7	30.3	28.8	1.5	2.4	*7.3*	*7.2*	*
June	33.7	30.9	29.3	1.6	2.8	*8.4*	*8.4*	*
July	33.7	31.0	29.3	1.7	2.7	*8.1*	*7.4*	*
August	33.7	31.2	29.3	1.9	2.5	*7.4*	*6.6*	*
September	33.3	30.9	29.4	1.5	2.4	*7.3*	*6.6*	*
October	33.0	30.3	29.0	1.3	2.7	*8.1*	*7.3*	*
November	33.0	30.4	29.2	1.2	2.6	*7.9*	*8.0*	*
December	33.0	30.2	29.0	1.2	2.8	*8.5*	*9.1*	*
1975 Avg.	32.7	30.0	28.6	1.4	2.7	*8.2*	*8.1*	*
1976								
January	32.4	29.2	28.1	1.1	3.2	*9.8*	*10.3*	*
February	32.2	29.3	28.2	1.1	2.9	*9.1*	*9.7*	*
March	32.9	29.9	28.7	1.2	3.0	*9.2*	*9.5*	*
April	32.5	29.9	28.5	1.4	2.6	*7.9*	*7.9*	*
May	33.5	31.2	29.7	1.5	2.3	*6.9*	*6.8*	*
June	35.0	31.7	30.1	1.6	3.3	*9.3*	*8.4*	*
July	34.4	31.5	29.9	1.6	2.9	*8.3*	*7.7*	*
August	34.2	31.7	29.9	1.8	2.5	*7.2*	*6.9*	*
September	33.5	31.5	30.1	1.4	2.0	*6.1*	*6.1*	*
October	33.8	31.6	30.3	1.3	2.2	*6.6*	*6.4*	*
November	33.7	31.4	30.2	1.2	2.3	*6.8*	*7.1*	*
December	33.5	31.3	30.3	1.0	2.2	*6.5*	*7.6*	*
1976 Avg.	33.5	30.9	29.5	1.4	2.6	*7.8*	*7.8*	*
1977								
January	33.4	30.4	29.6	.8	3.0	*8.9*	*9.8*	*
February	33.0	30.5	29.6	.9	2.5	*7.5*	*9.0*	*
March	33.6	31.2	30.1	1.1	2.4	*7.0*	*8.0*	*
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.

2/ Non-additive - included in total employment.

** Under 50.*

Series began January 1970.

Revised to 1975 Benchmarks.

Current month in italics is a forecast; previous month preliminary.

Table III

BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)

Civilian Labor Force

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute 2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent 1/ County	Percent 1/ State	
1975								
January	45.4	42.0	40.8	1.2	3.4	*7.6*	*9.4*	*
February	45.1	41.5	40.2	1.3	3.6	*8.0*	*10.2*	*
March	45.6	42.0	40.6	1.4	3.6	*7.9*	*9.2*	.1
April	46.8	43.4	41.9	1.5	3.4	*7.3*	*8.7*	*
May	47.1	44.5	42.8	1.7	2.6	*5.6*	*7.2*	*
June	49.0	45.6	43.7	1.9	3.4	*7.0*	*8.4*	*
July	49.5	46.3	44.4	1.9	3.2	*6.5*	*7.4*	*
August	49.2	46.1	43.9	2.2	3.1	*6.2*	*6.6*	*
September	48.5	45.6	43.8	1.8	2.9	*5.9*	*6.6*	.2
October	48.4	45.6	44.0	1.6	2.8	*5.8*	*7.3*	.2
November	49.2	46.4	45.0	1.4	2.8	*5.8*	*8.0*	*
December	48.6	45.4	44.1	1.3	3.2	*6.5*	*9.1*	*
1975 Avg.	47.7	44.5	42.9	1.6	3.2	*6.7*	*8.1*	*
1976								
January	47.4	43.7	42.4	1.3	3.7	*7.9*	*10.3*	*
February	47.1	43.8	42.5	1.3	3.3	*7.0*	*9.7*	*
March	47.5	44.1	42.7	1.4	3.4	*7.2*	*9.5*	*
April	48.3	45.4	43.8	1.6	2.9	*5.9*	*7.9*	*
May	48.1	45.8	44.1	1.7	2.3	*4.8*	*6.8*	*
June	50.7	47.2	45.3	1.9	3.5	*6.9*	*8.4*	*
July	50.4	47.2	45.4	1.8	3.2	*6.3*	*7.7*	*
August	49.8	47.1	45.0	2.1	2.7	*5.5*	*6.9*	*
September	50.0	47.6	46.0	1.6	2.4	*4.7*	*6.1*	*
October	50.7	48.3	46.8	1.5	2.4	*4.6*	*6.4*	*
November	51.0	48.5	47.2	1.3	2.5	*4.9*	*7.1*	*
December	50.8	48.0	46.8	1.2	2.8	*5.6*	*7.6*	*
1976 Avg.	49.3	46.4	44.8	1.6	2.9	*5.9*	*7.8*	*
1977								
January	50.7	46.9	45.9	1.0	3.8	*7.5*	*9.8*	*
February	50.4	47.1	46.0	1.1	3.3	*6.7*	*9.0*	*
March	50.2	47.4	46.1	1.3	2.8	*5.7*	*8.0*	*
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.* *Series began January 1970.*

2/ *Non-additive - included in total employment.* *Revised to 1975 Benchmarks.*

* *Under 50.* *Current month in italics is a forecast; previous month preliminary.*

RESIDENCE DATA
(ESTABLISHMENT DATA in italics)

Table IV

MONTANA

Statewide Employment by Industry

FEBRUARY 1977

in Thousands

INDUSTRY	FEB. 1977	JAN. 1977	FEB. 1976	Net Changes to Current Month from: JAN. 1977	FEB. 1976
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS[1]	323.6	323.8	323.6	-.2	0
EMPLOYED PERSONS	294.6	292.1	292.1	2.5	2.5
Persons Employed in Agriculture	23.1	21.2	28.8	1.9	-5.7
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	29.0	31.7	31.5	-2.7	-2.5
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted[2]	*9.0*	*9.8*	*9.7*	*-.8*	*-.7*
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted[2]	*7.0*	*7.6*	*7.8*	*-.6*	*-.8*
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS (Establishment Data)	*244.2*	*243.5*	*236.1*	*.9*	*8.1*
MANUFACTURING	*23.3*	*22.8*	*21.8*	*.5*	*1.5*
Durable Goods	*14.9*	*14.4*	*13.7*	*.5*	*1.2*
24 Lumber and Wood Products	*9.1*	*8.7*	*8.3*	*.4*	*.8*
33 Primary Metal Industries	*3.2*	*3.2*	*2.9*	*0*	*.3*
Other Durable Goods	*2.6*	*2.5*	*2.5*	*.1*	*.1*
Nondurable Goods	*8.4*	*8.4*	*8.1*	*0*	*.3*
20 Food and Kindred Products	*4.0*	*4.1*	*3.8*	*-.1*	*.2*
27 Printing and Publishing	*1.9*	*1.9*	*1.9*	*0*	*0*
29 Petroleum and Coal Products	*1.2*	*1.1*	*1.1*	*.1*	*.1*
Other Nondurable Goods	*1.3*	*1.3*	*1.3*	*0*	*0*
MINING	*5.0*	*5.4*	*5.8*	*-.4*	*-.8*
10 Metal Mining	*2.1*	*2.2*	*2.3*	*-.1*	*-.2*
12 & 14 Bitum. Coal, Quarrying, Non-Metal Mining	*1.2*	*1.2*	*1.6*	*0*	*-.4*
13 Oil and Gas Extraction	*1.7*	*2.0*	*1.9*	*-.3*	*-.2*

CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	10.2	10.0	10.2	.2	0
15 General Building Contractors	3.7	3.7	3.9	0	-.2
16 Heavy Construction Contractors	1.8	1.6	1.8	.2	0
17 Special Trade Contractors	4.7	4.7	4.5	0	.2
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	19.5	19.5	18.8	0	.7
40 Railroad Transportation	6.3	6.3	5.9	0	.4
41-47 Transportation, except Railroad	5.6	5.6	5.6	0	0
48 & 49 Commun., Electric, Gas, Sanitary Services	7.6	7.6	7.3	0	.3
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	60.1	60.3	57.4	-.2	2.7
Wholesale Trade	12.3	12.2	12.0	.1	.3
Retail Trade	47.8	48.1	45.4	.3	2.4
53 & 56 General Merchandise, Apparel, Accessories	7.9	8.1	7.9	-.2	0
54 Food Stores	6.7	6.7	6.4	0	.3
55 Automotive Dealers, Service Stations	7.9	7.9	7.8	0	.1
58 Eating and Drinking Places	15.3	15.3	13.7	0	1.6
52, 57, 59 Bldg. Mat., Farm Equip., Furn., Misc.	10.0	10.1	9.6	-.1	.4
FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE	10.8	10.8	10.3	0	.5
SERVICES	47.6	47.2	44.9	.4	2.7
70 Hotels and other Lodging Places	6.2	6.2	4.9	0	1.3
72 Personal Services	2.6	2.5	2.4	.1	.2
80 Medical and other Health Services	15.4	15.3	14.6	.1	.8
Other Services	23.4	23.2	23.0	.2	.4
GOVERNMENT	67.7	67.3	66.9	.4	.8
91 Federal Government	13.2	13.1	13.2	.1	0
92 State Colleges and Universities	9.2	9.2	9.5	0	-.3
92 Other State Government	10.8	10.8	10.0	0	.8
93 Local Education	22.0	21.7	22.1	.3	-.1
93 Other Local Government	12.5	12.5	12.1	0	.4

1/ Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers. Current month preliminary. Revised to 1975 Benchmarks.

2/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.

Establishment Series began January 1964; Residence Series began January 1970.

RESIDENCE DATA
(ESTABLISHMENT DATA in italics)

Table V

GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)

Employment by Industry

FEBRUARY 1977

in Thousands

INDUSTRY	Feb. 1977	Jan. 1977	Feb. 1976	Net Changes to Current Month from: Jan. 1977	Feb. 1976
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS[1/]	33.0	33.4	32.2	-.4	.8
EMPLOYED PERSONS	30.5	30.4	29.3	.1	1.2
Persons Employed in Agriculture	.9	.8	1.1	.1	-.2
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	2.5	3.0	2.9	-.5	-.4
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted[2/]	*7.5*	*8.9*	*9.1*	*-1.4*	*-1.6*
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted[2/] .	*6.1*	*7.2*	*7.7*	*-1.1*	*-1.6*
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS (Establishment Data)	*28.4*	*28.3*	*27.0*	*.1*	*1.4*
Manufacturing	*1.7*	*1.7*	*1.7*	*0*	*0*
Contract Construction	*1.6*	*1.5*	*1.2*	*.1*	*.4*
Transportation and Public Utilities ...	*1.9*	*1.9*	*1.8*	*0*	*.1*
Wholesale and Retail Trade	*8.6*	*8.7*	*8.2*	*-.1*	*.4*
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	*2.0*	*2.0*	*1.9*	*0*	*.1*
Services and Mining	*6.7*	*6.6*	*6.2*	*.1*	*.5*
Government	*5.9*	*5.9*	*6.0*	*0*	*-.1*

1/ Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers.
2/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.
Current month preliminary. *Revised to 1975 Benchmarks.*

RESIDENCE DATA
(ESTABLISHMENT DATA in italics)

Table VI

BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)

Employment by Industry

FEBRUARY 1977

in Thousands

INDUSTRY	Feb. 1977	Jan. 1977	Feb. 1976	Net Changes to Current Month from: Jan. 1977	Feb. 1976
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS[1]	50.4	50.7	47.1	-.3	3.3
EMPLOYED PERSONS	47.1	46.9	43.8	.2	3.3
Persons Employed in Agriculture	1.1	1.0	1.3	.1	-.2
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	3.3	3.8	3.3	-.5	0
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted[2]	*6.7*	*7.5*	*7.0*	*-.8*	*-.3*
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted[2]	*5.7*	*6.3*	*6.0*	*-.6*	*-.3*
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS (Establishment Data)	*41.4*	*41.3*	*38.5*	*.1*	*2.9*
Manufacturing	*3.9*	*3.9*	*3.5*	*0*	*.4*
Contract Construction	*2.1*	*2.1*	*1.8*	*0*	*.3*
Transportation and Public Utilities	*3.3*	*3.3*	*3.3*	*0*	*0*
Wholesale and Retail Trade	*13.4*	*13.4*	*12.6*	*0*	*.8*
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	*2.1*	*2.1*	*2.0*	*0*	*.1*
Services and Mining	*8.3*	*8.3*	*8.1*	*0*	*.2*
Government	*8.3*	*8.2*	*7.2*	*.1*	*1.1*

1/ Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers.

2/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.

Current month preliminary. *Revised to 1975 Benchmarks.*

Table VII

MONTANA LABOR MARKET AREAS[1/]

Civilian Labor Force

in Thousands

	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE			EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	Dec. 1976	Jan. 1977	Feb. 1977	Dec. 1976	Jan. 1977	Feb. 1977	Dec. 1976	Jan. 1977	Feb. 1977	Dec. 1976	Jan. 1977	Feb. 1977
STATEWIDE	326.0	329.5	323.6	301.3	297.4	294.6	24.7	32.1	29.0	*7.6*	*9.8*	*9.0*
GREAT FALLS SMSA	33.5	33.7	33.0	31.3	30.7	30.5	2.2	3.0	2.5	*6.5*	*8.8*	*7.5*
BILLINGS SMSA	50.8	51.0	50.4	48.0	47.1	47.1	2.8	3.9	3.3	*5.6*	*7.6*	*6.7*
BALANCE OF STATE[2/]	241.7	244.8	240.2	222.0	219.6	217.0	19.7	25.2	23.2	*8.1*	*10.3*	*9.7*
ANACONDA-BUTTE	32.0	32.7	32.4	29.1	29.1	28.9	2.9	3.5	3.5	*9.2*	*10.8*	*10.7*
BOZEMAN	23.3	23.5	22.9	21.8	21.2	20.9	1.5	2.2	2.0	*6.2*	*9.5*	*8.6*
GLASGOW	15.2	15.5	15.3	14.2	14.2	14.0	1.0	1.3	1.3	*6.6*	*8.6*	*8.8*
GLENDIVE	12.9	13.1	12.5	12.2	12.0	11.7	.7	1.0	.8	*5.6*	*8.0*	*6.7*
HARDIN-RED LODGE	10.9	11.2	10.8	10.2	10.1	9.9	.7	1.1	.9	*6.2*	*9.8*	*8.4*
HAVRE	12.1	12.0	11.8	11.4	11.1	10.9	.7	1.0	.9	*6.0*	*8.4*	*7.5*
HELENA	23.2	23.7	23.5	21.8	21.9	21.9	1.4	1.8	1.6	*5.9*	*7.5*	*6.9*
KALISPELL	30.2	31.1	30.6	26.8	26.6	26.3	3.4	4.5	4.3	*11.4*	*14.5*	*14.0*
LEWISTOWN	9.8	9.5	9.4	9.0	8.6	8.4	.8	.9	1.0	*8.6*	*9.8*	*10.8*
MILES CITY	13.7	14.2	13.8	12.7	13.0	12.8	1.0	1.2	1.0	*7.4*	*8.2*	*7.2*
MISSOULA	42.8	42.9	42.2	38.5	37.7	37.5	4.3	5.2	4.7	*10.1*	*12.1*	*11.0*
SHELBY-CUT BANK	15.6	15.4	14.9	14.4	13.9	13.6	1.2	1.5	1.3	*7.5*	*9.5*	*8.3*

1/ *A list of counties included in each Labor Market Area appears on page 39. See map on inside back cover.*
2/ *Statewide, excluding Great Falls and Billings Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas.*
Totals may not add due to rounding.

TABLE VIII

MONTANA LABOR MARKET AREAS[1/]

Civilian Labor Force

in Thousands

	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE			EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	Feb. 1977	Feb. 1976	Percent Change 1976-1977	Feb. 1977	Feb. 1976	Percent Change 1976-1977	Feb. 1977	Feb. 1976	Net Change 1976-1977	Feb. 1977	Feb. 1976	Net Change 1976-1977
STATEWIDE	323.6	323.6	*0*	294.6	292.1	*.9*	29.0	31.5	-2.5	*9.0*	*9.7*	*-.7*
GREAT FALLS SMSA	33.0	32.2	*3.4*	30.5	29.3	*4.1*	2.5	2.9	-.4	*7.5*	*9.1*	*-1.6*
BILLINGS SMSA	50.4	47.1	*7.0*	47.1	43.8	*7.5*	3.3	3.3	0	*6.7*	*7.0*	*-.3*
BALANCE OF STATE[2/]	240.2	244.3	*-1.7*	217.0	219.0	*-.9*	23.2	25.3	-2.1	*9.7*	*10.4*	*-.7*
ANACONDA-BUTTE	32.4	35.9	*-9.7*	28.9	31.5	*-8.2*	3.5	4.4	-.9	*8.2*	*12.3*	*-4.1*
BOZEMAN	22.9	24.6	*-6.9*	20.9	22.2	*-5.9*	2.0	2.4	-.4	*8.6*	*9.7*	*-1.1*
GLASGOW	15.3	14.6	*4.8*	14.0	13.5	*3.7*	1.3	1.1	.2	*8.8*	*7.7*	*1.1*
GLENDIVE	12.5	11.8	*5.9*	11.7	11.2	*4.5*	.8	.6	.2	*6.7*	*5.0*	*1.7*
HARDIN-RED LODGE	10.8	11.1	*-2.7*	9.9	10.2	*-2.9*	.9	1.1	-.2	*8.4*	*9.7*	*-1.3*
HAVRE	11.8	10.8	*9.3*	10.9	10.1	*7.9*	.9	.7	.2	*7.5*	*6.8*	*.7*
HELENA	23.5	23.6	*-.4*	21.9	21.7	*.9*	1.6	1.9	-.3	*6.9*	*8.0*	*-1.1*
KALISPELL	30.6	28.6	*7.0*	26.3	23.8	*10.5*	4.3	4.8	-.5	*14.0*	*16.8*	*-2.8*
LEWISTOWN	9.4	10.0	*-6.0*	8.4	9.1	*-7.7*	1.0	.9	.1	*10.8*	*9.1*	*1.7*
MILES CITY	13.8	14.6	*-5.5*	12.8	13.6	*-5.9*	1.0	1.0	0	*7.2*	*6.7*	*.5*
MISSOULA	42.2	42.8	*-1.4*	37.5	37.8	*-.8*	4.7	5.0	-.3	*11.0*	*11.6*	*-.6*
SHELBY-CUT BANK	14.9	15.9	*-6.3*	13.6	14.5	*-6.2*	1.3	1.4	-.1	*8.3*	*8.8*	*-.5*

1/ A list of counties included in each Labor Market Area appears on page 39. See map on inside back cover.
2/ Statewide, excluding Great Falls and Billings Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas.
Totals may not add due to rounding.

Table IX

MONTANA

FEMALE EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

FEBRUARY 1977

(In Thousands)

INDUSTRY	FEMALE EMPLOYMENT					TOTAL EMPLOYMENT COMPARISON			
				Net Change to Current Month From:					
	FEB. 1/ 1977	JAN. 1977	FEB. 1976	Jan. 1977	Feb. 1976	Total	Percent Women	Total	Percent Women
						February 1977		January 1977	
Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Workers .	101.7	101.4	95.4	.3	6.3	244.2	*41.6*	243.5	*41.6*
Manufacturing	3.0	3.0	2.6	0	.4	23.3	*12.9*	23.0	*13.0*
Mining	.3	.3	.3	0	0	5.0	*6.0*	5.4	*5.6*
Contract Construction	.7	.7	.8	0	-.1	10.2	*6.9*	10.0	*7.0*
Transportation & Public Utilities .	3.5	3.5	3.5	0	0	19.5	*17.9*	19.5	*17.9*
Wholesale & Retail Trade	25.9	26.0	23.0	-.1	2.9	60.1	*43.1*	60.3	*43.1*
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate ..	6.8	6.8	6.4	0	.4	10.8	*63.0*	10.8	*63.0*
Services	30.1	29.9	28.3	.2	1.8	47.6	*63.2*	47.2	*63.3*
Government	31.4	31.2	30.5	.2	.9	67.7	*46.4*	67.3	*46.4*

1/ Current month preliminary. Revised to 1975 Benchmark. Establishment Series began January 1974.

2/ Includes all civilian employees of Federal, State, and Local Governments regardless of the activity in which the employee is engaged.

Prepared by the Montana Employment Security Division in Cooperation with the U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table X

MONTANA FEMALE EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

(In Thousands)

1976

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ann. Avg.
Nonagricultural Wage & Salary .	95.5	95.4	96.5	97.6	98.7	98.9	99.0	98.4	99.5	101.2	102.2	102.6	98.8
Manufacturing	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.6	2.7	2.9	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.2	3.1	3.0	2.9
Mining	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3
Contract Construction	.8	.8	.8	.8	.8	.8	.8	.8	.8	.8	.8	.7	.8
Transport. & Public Utilities	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5
Wholesale & Retail Trade	23.3	23.0	23.8	24.7	25.2	25.5	26.1	25.9	26.1	26.0	26.3	26.6	25.2
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate .	6.4	6.4	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.6	6.7	6.8	6.8	6.7	6.7	6.8	6.6
Services	28.3	28.3	28.5	28.6	28.8	28.9	29.4	29.5	29.8	29.7	29.9	29.9	29.1
Government1/	30.3	30.5	30.6	30.6	30.8	30.3	29.1	28.5	29.2	31.0	31.6	31.8	30.4

1977

Nonagricultural Wage & Salary .	101.4	101.7
Manufacturing	3.0	3.0
Mining	.3	.3
Contract Construction	.7	.7
Transport. & Public Utilities	3.5	3.5
Wholesale & Retail Trade	26.0	25.9
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate .	6.8	6.8
Services	29.9	30.1
Government1/	31.2	31.4

1/ Includes all civilian employees of Federal, State, and Local Governments regardless of the activity in which the employee is engaged. Establishment Series began January, 1974. Revised to 1975 Benchmark.
Prepared by Montana Employment Security Division in cooperation with U. S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table XI

SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS OF APPLICANTS IN THE ACTIVE FILES IN EMPLOYMENT SERVICE OFFICES

February 1977

D.O.T. Code	Occupational Title	Total	Female	Veteran	Minority	Economically Disadvantaged
0-1	Professional, Tech. & Managerial	3,036	1,054	1,057	187	335
20-24	Clerical	3,884	3,361	293	265	740
25-29	Sales	2,116	1,346	354	81	378
30	Domestic	811	517	49	120	341
31-39	Other Services	5,266	3,743	640	479	1,773
4	Farming, Fishery & Forestry	1,593	155	522	181	348
5	Processing	317	74	86	16	55
6	Machine Trades	1,757	69	869	88	252
7	Bench Work	292	125	73	69	85
8	Structural Work	7,957	103	3,564	763	1,004
90-91	Motor Freight & Transportation	2,388	85	1,144	134	304
92	Packaging & Material Handling	2,198	128	663	234	535
93-97	Miscellaneous	1,033	43	422	98	163
	Entry-Level Applicants	1,709	930	224	225	618
	Total	34,482	11,771	9,993	2,950	6,952

NONAGRICULTURAL JOB OPENINGS BY OCCUPATION

February 1977

D.O.T. Code	Occupational Title	Total Openings Received	Openings Filled	Unfilled Total	Open 30 Days +
0-1	Professional, Tech. & Managerial	836	530	198	117
20-24	Clerical	2,617	2,137	197	65
25-29	Sales	1,037	692	140	79
30	Domestic	762	736	24	11
31-39	Other Services	3,170	2,585	284	91
4	Farming, Fishery & Forestry	195	170	55	11
5	Processing	134	124	18	11
6	Machine Trades	451	352	69	33
7	Bench Work	171	137	31	16
8	Structural Work	1,983	1,895	140	79
90-91	Motor Freight & Transportation	1,165	1,045	56	25
92	Packaging & Material Handling	2,712	2,673	77	32
93-97	Miscellaneous	517	445	37	10
	Total	15,788	13,555	1,339	591

Source: ESARS The above data are total Fiscal Year-to-Date.

Table XII

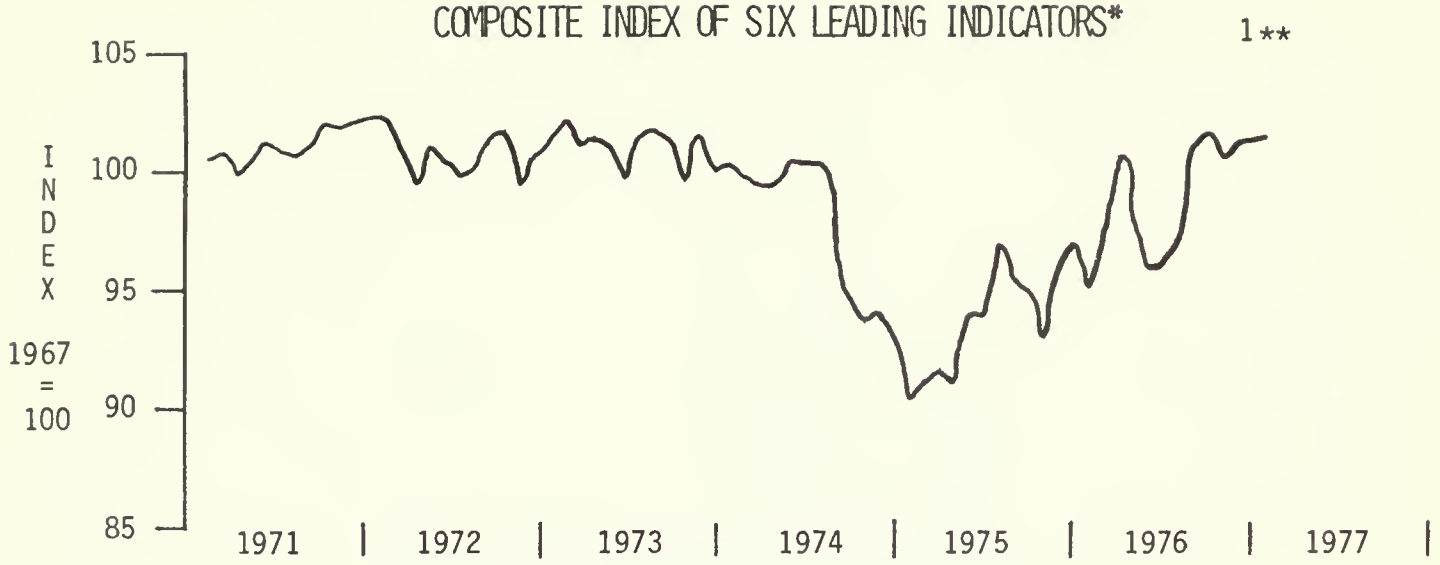
SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS OF INDIVIDUALS PLACED THROUGH THE EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

February 1977

Category	Total	Non-Ag	Agricultural
Age			
Total	10,535	9,873	920
Under 20	2,177	2,055	167
20-21	1,564	1,484	119
22-24	1,906	1,795	146
25-29	1,821	1,734	130
30-39	1,583	1,506	120
40-44	441	406	50
45-54	668	584	114
55-64	300	247	60
65 and Over	75	62	14
Sex			
Male	6,282	5,709	814
Female	4,253	4,164	106
Highest School Grade			
0-7	225	179	59
8-11	2,977	2,698	385
12	4,754	4,516	337
Over 12	2,579	2,480	139
Residence			
Urban	6,657	6,332	487
Rural	3,878	3,541	433
Ethnic Group			
White	9,685	9,117	794
Black	53	51	2
American Indian	577	509	93
Other	197	173	31
N/A	23	23	0
Spanish American	207	185	29
Veteran			
Total	2,468	2,236	336
Recently Separated	654	618	50
Disabled	157	138	23
Vietnam Era	1,567	1,468	150
Other Selected Characteristics			
Handicapped	875	812	91
Economically Disadvantaged	814	757	84
Food Stamps	854	779	95
Welfare	432	420	15

Source: ESARS *The above data are total Fiscal Year-to-Date.*

ECONOMIC INDICATORS



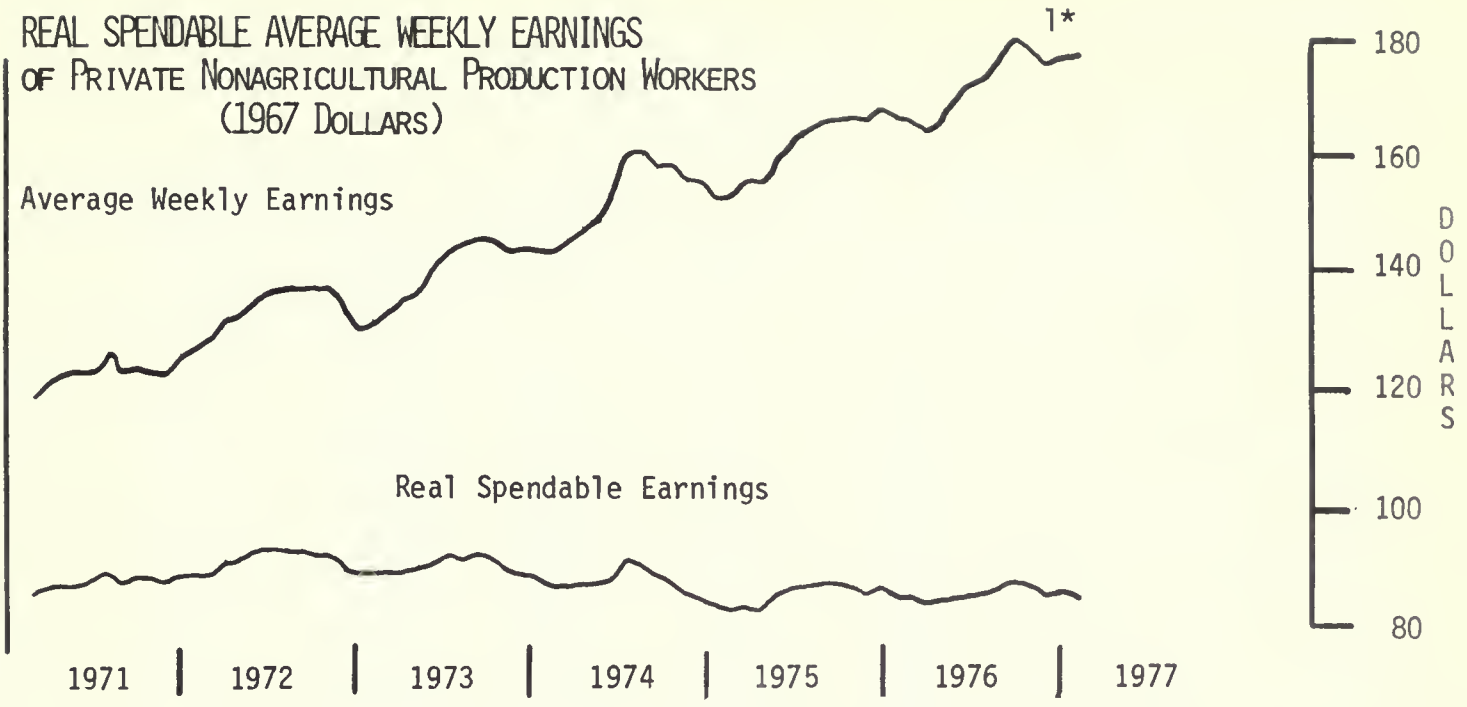
Composite Index of SIX LEADING INDICATORS 1967 = 100	
1976	
January	96.8
February	95.0
March	97.4
April	100.5
May	97.7
June	95.7
July	95.9
August	96.9
September	100.9
October	101.5
November	100.4
December	101.1
1977	
January	101.4
February	
March	
April	
May	
June	
July	
August	
September	
October	
November	
December	

MONTANA'S COMPOSITE INDEX

The Composite Index for January was 101.4 compared to December's index of 101.1 and slightly less than the highest value recorded during 1976 when the index regestered 101.5 for October. The components of the Composite Index were weighted positively with layoffs down, and manufacturing employment up. Accessions, weekly initial claims, average manufacturing weekly hours, and building permits produced negative trends, but were offset by the two positive gainers in the Composite Index. If severe drought conditions materialize this summer, the Composite Index will decline because of anticipated decreases in the manufacturing sector and above normal layoffs. If drought conditions do not prevail then Montana can expect stable economic growth.

* *Employment, Average Weekly Hours, Total Accessions, and Layoffs in Manufacturing; Building Permits, and Average Weekly Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims.*

** *Indicates last month of plotted data.*



	Feb. 1977	Jan. 1977	Feb. 1976
Gross Average Weekly Earnings	$174.65	$175.94	$164.98
Taxes Withheld	26.23	26.63	23.35
Spendable Earnings	148.42	149.31	141.63
Adjustment for Price Changes Since 1967	64.61	64.14	56.86
Real Spendable Earnings in 1967 Dollars	83.81	85.17	84.77

	Average Weekly Earnings[1/]	Real Spendable Earnings[2/]
1976		
July	172.67	85.92
Aug.	175.69	86.77
Sep.	178.92	87.72
Oct.	177.79	86.90
Nov.	175.02	85.54
Dec.	175.78	85.62
1977		
Jan.	175.94	85.17
Feb.	174.65*p*	83.81*p*
Mar.		
Apr.		
May		
June		
July		
Aug.		
Sep.		
Oct.		
Nov.		
Dec.		

SPENDABLE EARNINGS

In February, Real Spendable Earnings fell to $83.81, a 1.6% decrease from January. The diversion of natural gas to eastern markets, and cutbacks in availability of hydroelectric power had a lot to do with these depressed wage levels. The reduction in energy consumption had its greatest effect on overtime hours. Wages dropped as workers could no longer rely on the increased benefits of overtime pay. The initial effect on employment was minimal except in energy-intensive industries, where lay-off rates did reflect the guarded use of power.

* *Indicates last month of plotted data.* *p: Preliminary.*

1/ Average weekly earnings of total private nonagricultural production workers.

2/ Real spendable average weekly earnings of private nonagricultural production workers.

MONTANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute 2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent 1/ Montana	Percent 1/ U. S.	
1975								
January	326.0	303.0	265.8	37.2	23.0	*7.0*	*8.2*	*
February	326.4	300.0	263.3	36.7	26.4	*8.1*	*8.2*	.1
March	326.0	300.0	265.2	34.8	26.0	*8.0*	*8.7*	.3
April	323.2	295.6	262.7	32.9	27.6	*8.5*	*8.9*	.2
May	325.6	299.0	265.1	33.9	26.6	*8.2*	*9.2*	.1
June	327.4	299.7	267.7	32.0	27.7	*8.4*	*8.6*	.1
July	327.8	301.3	268.9	32.4	26.5	*8.1*	*8.4*	.2
August	329.3	302.9	270.2	32.7	26.4	*8.0*	*8.4*	*
September	333.1	306.3	273.7	32.6	26.8	*8.1*	*8.3*	.3
October	336.4	308.4	273.1	35.3	28.0	*8.3*	*8.6*	.3
November	341.0	313.0	275.4	37.6	28.0	*8.2*	*8.3*	.2
December	343.5	314.0	274.6	39.4	29.5	*8.6*	*8.3*	.2
1975 Avg.	330.5	303.6	268.8	34.8	26.9	*8.1*	*8.5*	.1
1976								
January	342.7	315.0	274.6	40.4	27.7	*8.1*	*7.8*	*
February	341.1	314.6	275.6	39.0	26.5	*7.8*	*7.6*	*
March	337.8	309.9	273.8	36.1	27.9	*8.3*	*7.5*	*
April	332.6	307.2	272.2	35.0	25.4	*7.6*	*7.5*	*
May	328.2	302.9	269.4	33.5	25.3	*7.7*	*7.3*	*
June	320.7	293.6	261.9	31.7	27.1	*8.4*	*7.5*	.1
July	321.6	294.4	264.5	29.9	27.2	*8.5*	*7.8*	.1
August	319.1	292.2	262.3	29.9	26.9	*8.4*	*7.9*	.1
September	322.4	297.7	267.5	30.2	24.7	*7.7*	*7.8*	.1
October	332.8	307.9	273.6	34.3	24.9	*7.5*	*7.9*	.1
November	338.4	313.9	278.7	35.2	24.5	*7.3*	*8.0*	.1
December	337.9	314.0	278.2	35.8	23.9	*7.1*	*7.8*	.1
1976 Avg.	331.3	305.3	271.1	34.2	26.0	*7.8*	*7.7*	.1
1977								
January	341.7	315.9	283.1	32.8	25.8	*7.6*	*7.3*	.1
February	341.1	317.1	283.8	33.3	24.0	*7.0*	*7.5*	.1
March								
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.
2/ Non-additive - included in total employment.
* *Under 50.*

Series began January 1970.
Revised to 1975 Benchmarks.
Current month preliminary.

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

RESIDENCE DATA

Table XIV

GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)

Civilian Labor Force

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute 2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent 1/ County	Percent 1/ State	
1975								
January	32.4	30.3	28.7	1.6	2.1	6.5	7.0	*
February	32.7	30.0	28.5	1.5	2.7	8.3	8.1	*
March	32.5	29.9	28.5	1.4	2.6	8.1	8.0	.1
April	32.6	29.8	28.5	1.3	2.8	8.7	8.5	.1
May	32.4	29.9	28.6	1.3	2.5	7.8	8.2	*
June	32.2	29.7	28.5	1.2	2.5	7.8	8.4	*
July	32.4	29.8	28.5	1.3	2.6	8.2	8.1	*
August	32.5	29.8	28.5	1.3	2.7	8.2	8.0	*
September	32.7	30.0	28.8	1.2	2.7	8.2	8.1	*
October	33.0	30.0	28.7	1.3	3.0	9.0	8.3	*
November	33.6	30.8	29.3	1.5	2.8	8.3	8.2	*
December	33.4	30.5	29.0	1.5	2.9	8.8	8.6	*
1975 Avg.	32.7	30.0	28.6	1.4	2.7	8.2	8.1	*
1976								
January	33.7	31.0	29.3	1.7	2.7	8.0	8.1	*
February	33.6	31.0	29.4	1.6	2.6	7.7	7.8	*
March	33.7	30.8	29.4	1.4	2.9	8.6	8.3	*
April	32.5	29.8	28.4	1.4	2.7	8.3	7.6	*
May	33.1	30.7	29.4	1.3	2.4	7.3	7.7	*
June	33.3	30.4	29.2	1.2	2.9	8.8	8.4	*
July	33.1	30.3	29.1	1.2	2.8	8.4	8.5	*
August	33.0	30.4	29.2	1.2	2.6	8.0	8.4	*
September	32.9	30.6	29.4	1.2	2.3	6.9	7.7	*
October	34.0	31.5	30.2	1.3	2.5	7.4	7.5	*
November	34.2	31.7	30.3	1.4	2.5	7.3	7.3	*
December	34.1	31.8	30.4	1.4	2.3	6.8	7.1	*
1976 Avg.	33.5	30.9	29.5	1.4	2.6	7.8	7.8	*
1977								
January	34.9	32.4	31.1	1.3	2.5	7.2	7.6	*
February	34.4	32.3	30.9	1.4	2.1	6.1	7.0	*
March								
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.

2/ Non-additive - included in total employment.

** Under 50.*

Series began January 1970.

Revised to 1975 Benchmarks.

Current month preliminary.

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

Table XVII

MONTANA LABOR TURNOVER RATES

In Manufacturing and Mining Industries

(per 100 employees)

JANUARY 1977

	ACCESSION RATES						SEPARATION RATES					
	Total			New Hires			Total			Quits			Layoffs		
	Jan. 1977	Dec. 1976	Jan. 1976	Jan. 1977	Dec. 1976	Jan. 1976	Jan. 1977	Dec. 1976	Jan. 1976	Jan. 1977	Dec. 1976	Jan. 1976	Jan. 1977	Dec. 1976	Jan. 1976
MANUFACTURING	2.8	2.3	2.8	1.7	1.7	2.1	2.2	3.3	2.5	1.1	1.2	1.6	.7	1.6	.4
Durable Goods	3.1	1.8	2.8	1.8	1.2	1.8	2.7	2.7	2.5	1.3	1.0	1.2	1.0	1.4	.6
Primary Metal Industries	2.2	2.9	1.6	.8	.9	.1	.7	1.1	3.5	.4	.7	.7	*	*	1.3
Nondurable Goods	2.1	3.2	3.0	1.5	2.5	2.6	1.3	4.2	2.6	.7	1.7	1.9	.3	1.8	.3
MINING	1.2	2.4	1.6	.8	1.2	.1	5.1	1.1	2.4	1.7	.3	.3	2.9	.2	1.4
Metal Mining	1.2	1.2	1.6	.1	.2	.1	8.5	.9	3.1	.1	.1	.4	7.0	.1	1.3

* *Less than .05.*
Prepared by U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.
Series began January 1959.

NEW BUSINESS FIRMS IN MONTANA

BY INDUSTRY

New business firms in Montana are a reflection of economic activity within the business community. Data furnished on this page and the following page are an aggregate of information supplied by the office of the Montana Secretary of State and the Montana Employment Security Division. These data should in no way be construed as being absolute. They are presented to indicate business trends during the survey period.

The chart on the following page is a break-down by county and labor market area of business starts in Montana during the current month and year to date, with a comparison to the previous year.

The following chart is a break-down of new businesses by industry, with a comparison to last year.

Industry	FEB. 1977	FEB. 1976	Year to Date 1977	Year to Date 1976
AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, AND FISHERIES	18	21	47	42
MINING	10	4	30	13
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	58	19	107	58
MANUFACTURING	13	6	21	16
TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNICATION, ELECTRIC, GAS, AND SANITARY SERVICES	20	7	27	12
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	108	27	181	77
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	37	19	64	49
SERVICES	118	65	227	167
GOVERNMENT	0	0	0	0
NOT ELSEWHERE CLASSIFIED	15	0	16	0
STATE TOTAL	397	168	720	434

NEW BUSINESS FIRMS IN MONTANA

BY LABOR MARKET AREA

Areas	NEW BUSINESS FIRMS			
			Year to Date	
	Feb. 1977	Feb. 1976	1977	1976
STATE OF MONTANA	397	168	720	434
GREAT FALLS SMSA	49	20	76	55
BILLINGS SMSA	78	24	121	62
ANACONDA-BUTTE LMA	26	12	65	32
Beaverhead	7	5	9	7
Deer Lodge	1	0	1	1
Granite	0	0	0	0
Madison	4	0	6	0
Powell	3	1	3	3
Silver Bow	11	6	46	21
BOZEMAN LMA	48	18	82	32
Gallatin	38	14	59	26
Meagher	1	1	2	1
Park	9	3	21	5
GLASGOW LMA	11	18	24	30
Daniels	2	7	2	9
Phillips	0	0	1	0
Roosevelt	3	0	4	5
Sheridan	1	6	5	9
Valley	5	5	12	7
GLENDIVE LMA	5	4	11	15
Dawson	1	3	2	6
Garfield	0	0	2	1
McCone	0	0	0	4
Prairie	2	0	3	2
Richland	1	1	3	2
Wibaux	1	0	1	0
HARDIN-RED LODGE LMA	9	2	14	9
Big Horn	3	1	6	3
Carbon	1	0	2	4
Stillwater	4	1	5	2
Sweet Grass	1	0	1	0

Areas	NEW BUSINESS FIRMS			
			Year to Date	
	Feb. 1977	Feb. 1976	1977	1976
HAVRE LMA	9	4	17	14
Blaine	3	0	3	2
Hill	6	3	7	11
Liberty	0	1	7	1
HELENA LMA	33	10	48	29
Broadwater	1	0	1	0
Jefferson	2	0	2	2
Lewis and Clark	30	10	45	27
KALISPELL LMA	36	15	74	46
Flathead	19	7	37	30
Lake	9	7	21	13
Lincoln	8	1	16	3
LEWISTOWN LMA	13	2	20	8
Fergus	9	1	16	6
Golden Valley	1	1	1	1
Judith Basin	0	0	0	0
Musselshell	2	0	2	1
Petroleum	0	0	0	0
Wheatland	1	0	1	0
MILES CITY LMA	12	8	23	19
Carter	1	1	3	1
Custer	4	1	10	7
Fallon	2	0	3	3
Powder River	0	1	0	1
Rosebud	4	5	6	7
Treasure	1	0	1	0
MISSOULA LMA	56	24	107	62
Mineral	0	1	0	1
Missoula	42	20	84	48
Ravalli	11	2	18	9
Sanders	3	1	5	4
SHELBY-CUT BANK LMA	12	7	38	21
Chouteau	2	4	2	5
Glacier	2	0	4	5
Pondera	2	0	15	1
Teton	3	0	5	4
Toole	3	3	12	6

Source of data: State of Montana Employment Security Division, Research and Analysis Section; Montana Secretary of State.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE: CLAIM TO PAYMENT

The bulk of those persons who become separated from their jobs, enter one of our 23 local Job Service offices for two reasons; to seek employment and to claim unemployment insurance (UI) benefits. Claimant wage credits obtained from insured employers are examined to determine if the claim meets monetary eligibility requirements for UI benefits and, if so, for how much per week and for how many potential weeks is the claimant qualified.* Monetarily eligible claims are subsequently segregated according to criteria for establishing which party (claimant or employer) was most responsible for the job separation in question. Claims for job separations resulting from claimant actions (issues) are further subjected to the test of whether or not an individual's reduction in his potential benefit duration is warranted. If otherwise eligible and if availability criteria continue to be complied with throughout his actual unemployment duration, weekly benefit payments will commence with the claimant's second week of unemployment (a waiting week must be served under the Montana Law). The number and amount of such payments by county are shown in the table on the following page. Interstate payments in the table refer to payments made to individuals who now reside in other states but who had established wage credits in Montana based employment. Amounts shown in the table are financed through employer taxes paid to the Montana UI Trust Fund Account.

* *If sufficient wage credits have been secured by a claimant from sources other than insured employment, he may be eligible for benefits which are financed wholly or partially from federal funds.*

Table XVIII

CUMULATIVE DISTRIBUTION OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

JANUARY THRU DECEMBER 1976 INTRASTATE

County	No. of Pays	Amount of Pays
BEAVERHEAD	2,054	130,746.00
BIG HORN	3,015	214,387.00
BLAINE	1,829	113,975.00
BROADWATER	1,171	75,752.00
CARBON	3,353	219,113.00
CARTER	110	6,059.00
CASCADE	37,439	2,377,362.00
CHOUTEAU	893	53,627.00
CUSTER	3,356	226,223.00
DANIELS	215	16,668.00
DAWSON	2,524	164,469.00
DEER LODGE	9,212	634,976.00
FALLON	547	39,333.00
FERGUS	4,391	285,939.00
FLATHEAD	34,495	2,242,533.80
GALLATIN	18,288	1,168,663.00
GARFIELD	215	13,292.00
GLACIER	5,811	364,091.00
GOLDEN VALLEY	193	12,800.00
GRANITE	2,289	155,330.84
HILL	5,577	350,179.20
JEFFERSON	4,501	322,243.00
JUDITH BASIN	330	23,073.00
LAKE	9,975	656,779.50
LEWIS & CLARK	16,560	1,109,430.00
LIBERTY	224	13,134.00
LINCOLN	15,887	1,057,834.00
MADISON	1,535	95,398.50
MCCONE	262	17,459.00
MEAGHER	959	63,154.00
MINERAL	3,172	209,842.00
MISSOULA	41,052	2,644,963.44
MUSSELSHELL	1,745	122,060.00
PARK	5,216	312,959.00
PETROLEUM	31	1,813.00
PHILLIPS	1,436	85,949.00
PONDERA	1,583	99,884.00
POWDER RIVER	170	13,018.00
POWELL	4,885	358,419.00
PRAIRIE	437	28,950.00
RAVALLI	11,970	783,161.84
RICHLAND	2,527	153,349.00
ROOSEVELT	3,142	202,598.00
ROSEBUD	5,041	369,061.50
SANDERS	5,904	334,934.50
SHERIDAN	757	45,193.00
SILVER BOW	40,571	2,785,651.00
STILLWATER	1,779	122,759.00
SWEETGRASS	857	56,584.00
TETON	1,487	95,134.00
TOOLE	1,483	100,250.00
TREASURE	359	24,320.00
VALLEY	5,477	349,448.00
WHEATLAND	478	32,437.00
WIBAUX	234	14,682.00
YELLOWSTONE	42,713	2,901,911.65
TOTAL FOR STATE	371,716	24,533,355.77
INTERSTATE	25,228	1,727,379.38
TOTAL	396,944	26,260,735.15

Table XIX

DISTRIBUTION OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

FEBRUARY 1977

County	No. of Pays	INTRASTATE Amount of Pays
BEAVERHEAD	328	24,164.00
BIG HORN	493	39,836.00
BLAINE	291	20,728.00
BROADWATER	138	10,251.00
CARBON	329	25,204.00
CARTER	38	2,922.00
CASCADE	3,662	273,143.00
CHOUTEAU	206	13,677.00
CUSTER	814	66,031.00
DANIELS	58	4,533.00
DAWSON	570	41,095.00
DEER LODGE	865	67,232.00
FALLON	85	7,462.00
FERGUS	787	59,660.00
FLATHEAD	3,369	244,336.00
GALLATIN	1,861	140,938.00
GARFIELD	55	4,590.00
GLACIER	794	59,144.00
GOLDEN VALLEY	38	2,868.00
GRANITE	252	19,164.00
HILL	757	57,343.00
JEFFERSON	442	36,659.00
JUDITH BASIN	42	3,274.00
LAKE	1,046	73,284.00
LEWIS & CLARK	2,142	165,523.00
LIBERTY	51	3,740.00
LINCOLN	1,169	83,165.00
MADISON	192	12,520.00
MCCONE	60	4,348.00
MEAGHER	130	10,705.00
MINERAL	434	31,535.36
MISSOULA	4,343	313,536.00
MUSSELSHELL	375	29,722.00
PARK	767	52,019.00
PETROLEUM	8	776.00
PHILLIPS	225	16,230.00
PONDERA	297	23,344.00
POWDER RIVER	60	5,667.00
POWELL	452	35,484.00
PRAIRIE	130	11,206.00
RAVALLI	1,185	83,922.00
RICHLAND	307	23,478.00
ROOSEVELT	387	27,455.00
ROSEBUD	595	48,734.00
SANDERS	439	30,474.00
SHERIDAN	131	9,953.00
SILVER BOW	3,282	260,215.00
STILLWATER	255	21,586.00
SWEETGRASS	88	7,353.00
TETON	218	15,997.00
TOOLE	293	22,854.00
TREASURE	76	6,396.00
VALLEY	758	56,470.00
WHEATLAND	81	6,900.00
WIBAUX	52	3,682.00
YELLOWSTONE	5,379	431,701.00
TOTAL FOR STATE	41,681	3,154,228.36
INTERSTATE	2,293	185,815.88
TOTAL	43,974	3,340,044.24

Table XX

SELECTED UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTIVITIES IN MONTANA

ANNUAL

	1976	1975	Actual Change	Percent Change
Initial Claims[1/]	47,963	45,442	2,521	*5.5*
Continued Claims[1/]	467,666	486,975	-19,309	*-4.0*
Number of Benefit Payments[1/]	396,944	433,221	-36,277	*-8.4*
Amount of Benefits Paid[1/]	$26,260,735	$25,176,953	$1,083,782	*4.3*
Trust Fund Balance	$ 1,008,042*	$ 7,003,178*	-$5,995,136	*-85.6*

MONTHLY

	Feb. 1977	Jan. 1977	Feb. 1976	Change From Year Ago	Percent Change
Initial Claims[1/]	3,717	7,295	3,896	-179	*-4.6*
Continued Claims[1/]	49,413	52,268	49,705	-292	*-.6*
Number of Benefit Payments[1/]	43,974	44,073	45,925	-1,951	*-4.2*
Amount of Benefits Paid[1/]	$3,340,044	$3,379,344	$3,008,072	$ 331,972	*11.0*
Trust Fund Balance	$1,650,300*	$1,210,222*	$3,190,753	-$1,540,453	*-48.3*

1/ *Regular Unemployment Insurance Program only.*
* *Includes loans from Federal Government.*

The number of benefit payments and the number of continued and initial claims have decreased from February 1976 to February 1977. Except for the case of initial claims, annual claims and payment totals between 1975 and 1976 also reflect this economically favorable tendency. However, this annual increase in initial claims could easily be argued away by the fact that there were an unusual number of ineligible claims filed by former school district employees during the summer of 1976.

Contrary to what might be expected from the above revelations, the number of dollars paid out for benefits are rising. This is attributable to the fact that the average weekly benefit amount has increased 15% from 1975 to 1976. Thus, costs exceed income and, ultimately, the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund continues to falter.

CHARACTERISTICS

OF THE

INSURED UNEMPLOYED

Table XXI

INDUSTRIAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE INSURED UNEMPLOYED - MONTANA

OCTOBER 1976	AVERAGE DURATION (WEEKS)			NUMBER OF CLAIMS		
Industry	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Mining	8	8	9	214	187	27
Construction	5	5	8	734	694	40
Manufacturing	7	7	9	590	452	138
Transportation, Communication, Public Utilities	7	7	8	218	154	64
Trade	8	7	9	1,346	621	725
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate	8	8	8	153	45	108
Services	8	7	9	1,336	463	873
Public Administration	8	7	9	352	180	172
TOTAL	8	7	9	4,943	2,796	2,147
NOVEMBER 1976						
Mining	7	9	8	266	228	38
Construction	5	5	10	1,078	1,033	45
Manufacturing	7	6	10	762	630	132
Transportation, Communication, Public Utilities	8	7	9	271	198	73
Trade	8	7	9	1,570	795	775
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate	8	7	9	170	50	120
Services	9	8	9	1,408	564	844
Public Administration	8	8	9	393	221	172
TOTAL	8	7	9	5,918	3,719	2,199
DECEMBER 1976						
Mining	7	6	9	422	369	53
Construction	5	5	9	2,267	2,203	64
Manufacturing	8	8	10	1,205	1,044	161
Transportation, Communication, Public Utilities	8	8	9	362	269	93
Trade	8	7	10	2,060	1,170	890
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate	9	8	10	205	70	135
Services	9	8	10	1,720	783	937
Public Administration	9	8	11	538	343	195
TOTAL	8	7	10	8,779	6,251	2,528

Table XXII

OCCUPATIONAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE INSURED UNEMPLOYED - MONTANA

NUMBER OF CLAIMS

DOT	Major Occupational Titles	All Claims	Female	Male	White	Non-White
OCTOBER 1976						
0	Professional, Technical & Managerial	279	174	105	258	21
1	Professional, Technical & Managerial	378	193	185	336	42
2	Clerical & Sales	1,110	922	188	1,078	32
3	Service	994	741	253	933	61
4	Farming, Fishing, Forestry & Related	46	7	39	44	2
5	Processing	40	11	29	37	3
6	Machine Trades	273	20	253	269	4
7	Bench Work	39	11	28	36	3
8	Structural Work	1,126	19	1,107	1,056	70
9	Miscellaneous	659	49	610	627	32
	Total	4,944	2,147	2,797	4,674	270
NOVEMBER 1976						
0	Professional, Technical & Managerial	299	166	133	283	16
1	Professional, Technical & Managerial	388	167	221	350	38
2	Clerical & Sales	1,144	934	210	1,108	36
3	Service	1,108	808	300	1,037	71
4	Farming, Fishing, Forestry & Related	87	12	75	82	5
5	Processing	59	12	47	58	1
6	Machine Trades	355	17	338	345	10
7	Bench Work	54	15	39	51	3
8	Structural Work	1,566	22	1,544	1,457	109
9	Miscellaneous	858	46	812	830	28
	Total	5,918	2,199	3,719	5,601	317
DECEMBER 1976						
0	Professional, Technical & Managerial	331	159	172	309	22
1	Professional, Technical & Managerial	464	164	300	428	36
2	Clerical & Sales	1,317	1,029	288	1,272	45
3	Service	1,394	985	409	1,320	74
4	Farming, Fishing, Forestry & Related	146	19	127	138	8
5	Processing	80	22	58	79	1
6	Machine Trades	561	27	534	541	20
7	Bench Work	72	22	50	63	9
8	Structural Work	2,956	34	2,922	2,748	208
9	Miscellaneous	1,459	67	1,392	1,403	56
	Total	8,780	2,528	6,252	8,301	479

Table XXIII

OCCUPATIONAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE INSURED UNEMPLOYED - MONTANA

AVERAGE DURATION (WEEKS)

DOT	Major Occupational Titles	All Claims	Female	Male	White	Non-White
OCTOBER 1976						
0	Professional, Technical & Managerial	9	8	9	8	9
1	Professional, Technical & Managerial	9	10	8	9	10
2	Clerical & Sales	9	9	8	9	9
3	Service	8	8	8	8	8
4	Farming, Fishing, Forestry & Related	6	6	8	6	5
5	Processing	9	10	8	9	7
6	Machine Trades	7	7	8	7	5
7	Bench Work	9	11	8	8	15
8	Structural Work	6	7	7	6	6
9	Miscellaneous	7	8	7	7	6
	Total	8	9	7	8	8
NOVEMBER 1976						
0	Professional, Technical & Managerial	9	9	9	9	11
1	Professional, Technical & Managerial	9	10	9	9	10
2	Clerical & Sales	9	10	9	9	10
3	Service	9	9	9	9	9
4	Farming, Fishing, Forestry & Related	5	4	8	5	5
5	Processing	8	9	8	8	4
6	Machine Trades	7	8	8	7	4
7	Bench Work	7	7	8	7	14
8	Structural Work	6	9	7	6	6
9	Miscellaneous	7	9	7	7	6
	Total	8	9	7	8	8
DECEMBER 1976						
0	Professional, Technical & Managerial	10	11	9	10	10
1	Professional, Technical & Managerial	9	11	9	9	9
2	Clerical & Sales	10	10	9	10	9
3	Service	9	9	9	9	8
4	Farming, Fishing, Forestry & Related	7	7	8	7	6
5	Processing	8	8	8	8	14
6	Machine Trades	7	7	8	7	6
7	Bench Work	8	9	8	8	8
8	Structural Work	6	9	7	6	6
9	Miscellaneous	7	9	7	7	6
	Total	7	10	7	7	7

Table XXIV

PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF OCCUPATIONAL CHARACTERISTICS - MONTANA

DOT	Major Occupational Titles	% Of All Male Claims	% Of All Female Claims	Male Claims As % Of All Claims	Female Claims As % Of All Claims	% Total	% Of White Claims	% Of Non-White Claims	White Claims As % Of All Claims	Non-White Claims As % Of All Claims
OCTOBER 1976										
0	Pro.,Tech.,& Man.	3.8	8.1	2.1	3.5	5.6	5.5	7.8	5.2	.4
1	Pro.,Tech.,& Man.	6.6	9.0	3.8	3.9	7.7	7.2	15.6	6.8	.9
2	Clerical & Sales	6.7	43.0	3.8	18.7	22.5	23.1	11.9	21.8	.7
3	Service	9.1	34.5	5.1	15.0	20.1	20.0	22.6	18.9	1.2
4	Farm,Fish,For.,Etc.	1.4	.3	.8	.1	.9	.9	.7	.9	-
5	Processing	1.0	.5	.6	.2	.8	.8	1.1	.7	.1
6	Machine Trades	9.0	.9	5.1	.4	5.5	5.7	1.5	5.4	.1
7	Bench Work	1.0	.5	.6	.2	.8	.8	1.1	.7	.1
8	Structural Work	39.6	.9	22.4	.4	22.8	22.6	25.9	21.4	1.4
9	Miscellaneous	21.8	2.3	12.3	1.0	13.3	13.4	11.8	12.7	.6
	Total	100.0	100.0	56.6	43.4	100.0	100.0	100.0	94.5	5.5
NOVEMBER 1976										
0	Pro.,Tech.,& Man.	3.6	7.6	2.2	2.8	5.0	5.1	5.0	4.8	.2
1	Pro.,Tech.,& Man.	5.9	7.6	3.8	2.8	6.6	6.2	12.0	5.9	.7
2	Clerical & Sales	5.6	42.5	3.5	15.8	19.3	19.8	11.4	18.7	.6
3	Service	8.1	36.7	5.1	13.6	18.7	18.5	22.4	17.5	1.2
4	Farm,Fish,For.,Etc.	2.0	.5	1.3	.2	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.4	.1
5	Processing	1.3	.5	.8	.2	1.0	1.0	.3	1.0	-
6	Machine Trades	9.1	.8	5.7	.3	6.0	6.2	3.2	5.8	.2
7	Bench Work	1.1	.7	.7	.2	.9	.9	.9	.8	.1
8	Structural	41.5	1.0	26.1	.4	26.5	26.0	34.4	24.6	1.9
9	Miscellaneous	21.8	2.1	13.7	.8	14.5	14.8	8.8	14.0	.5
	Total	100.0	100.0	62.9	37.1	100.0	100.0	100.0	94.5	5.5
DECEMBER 1976										
0	Pro.,Tech.,& Man.	2.8	6.3	2.0	1.8	3.8	3.7	4.6	3.5	.3
1	Pro.,Tech.,& Man.	4.8	6.5	3.4	1.9	5.3	5.2	7.5	4.9	.4
2	Clerical & Sales	4.6	40.7	3.3	11.7	15.0	15.3	9.4	14.5	.5
3	Service	6.6	39.0	4.7	11.2	15.9	15.9	15.5	15.0	.9
4	Farm,Fish,For.,Etc.	2.0	.7	1.4	.2	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.6	-
5	Processing	.9	.9	.7	.2	.9	.9	.2	.9	-
6	Machine Trades	8.5	1.1	6.1	.3	6.4	6.5	4.1	6.2	.2
7	Bench Work	.8	.9	.6	.2	.8	.8	1.9	.7	.1
8	Structural	46.7	1.3	33.3	.4	33.7	33.1	43.4	31.3	2.4
9	Miscellaneous	22.3	2.6	15.8	.8	16.6	16.9	11.7	16.0	.6
	Total	100.0	100.0	71.7	28.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	94.6	5.4

ANNUAL TABLES

1976 MONTANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE BY LABOR MARKET AREA[1/]

Not Seasonally Adjusted

(In Thousands)

Month	Civilian Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment Number	Unemployment Rate[2/]
ANACONDA-BUTTE LMA				
January	35.9	31.4	4.5	*12.5*
February	35.9	31.5	4.4	*12.3*
March	35.8	31.6	4.2	*11.8*
April	35.4	31.9	3.5	*9.8*
May	35.2	32.0	3.2	*9.1*
June	36.3	32.2	4.1	*11.3*
July	34.9	31.3	3.6	*11.6*
August	34.3	30.8	3.5	*10.3*
September	33.3	30.3	3.0	*9.0*
October	32.3	29.5	2.8	*8.7*
November	33.0	29.9	3.1	*9.3*
December	32.0	29.1	2.9	*9.2*
1976 Avg.	34.6	31.0	3.6	*10.3*
BOZEMAN LMA				
January	24.7	22.2	2.5	*10.1*
February	24.6	22.2	2.4	*9.7*
March	24.9	22.7	2.2	*8.9*
April	23.8	22.1	1.7	*7.1*
May	24.3	22.8	1.5	*6.3*
June	25.4	23.7	1.7	*6.8*
July	24.3	22.7	1.6	*6.5*
August	24.3	22.9	1.4	*5.8*
September	23.5	22.1	1.4	*5.8*
October	23.7	22.3	1.4	*6.0*
November	23.5	21.9	1.6	*7.0*
December	23.3	21.8	1.5	*6.2*
1976 Avg.	24.2	22.5	1.7	*7.2*
GLASGOW LMA				
January	14.4	13.3	1.1	*7.9*
February	14.6	13.5	1.1	*7.7*
March	15.0	14.0	1.0	*7.0*
April	15.4	14.5	.9	*5.6*
May	15.3	14.6	.7	*4.4*
June	15.4	14.5	.9	*6.0*
July	16.8	15.8	1.0	*5.8*
August	17.0	16.1	.9	*5.1*
September	16.0	15.2	.8	*5.2*
October	15.6	14.8	.8	*5.4*
November	15.7	14.7	1.0	*6.2*
December	15.2	14.2	1.0	*6.6*
1976 Avg.	15.5	14.6	.9	*6.0*
GLENDIVE LMA				
January	11.8	11.2	.6	*5.3*
February	11.8	11.2	.6	*5.0*
March	12.2	11.5	.7	*5.5*
April	12.4	11.9	.5	*4.1*
May	12.5	12.1	.4	*3.1*
June	12.8	12.3	.5	*4.2*
July	13.5	13.0	.5	*3.7*
August	13.9	13.4	.5	*3.4*
September	13.2	12.8	.4	*3.1*
October	13.3	12.9	.4	*3.2*
November	13.2	12.7	.5	*3.8*
December	12.9	12.2	.7	*5.6*
1976 Avg.	12.8	12.3	.5	*4.2*
HARDIN-RED LODGE LMA				
January	11.2	10.2	1.0	*9.3*
February	11.1	10.0	1.1	*9.7*
March	11.4	10.4	1.0	*9.0*
April	11.6	10.8	.8	*6.9*
May	11.7	11.0	.7	*6.0*
June	12.5	11.6	.9	*7.1*
July	12.1	11.3	.8	*6.6*
August	12.3	11.7	.6	*5.1*
September	11.2	10.7	.5	*4.2*
October	11.3	10.7	.6	*5.3*
November	11.2	10.4	.8	*6.8*
December	10.9	10.2	.7	*6.2*
1976 Avg.	11.6	10.8	.8	*6.8*
HAVRE LMA				
January	10.8	10.0	.8	*7.3*
February	10.8	10.1	.7	*6.8*
March	11.1	10.4	.7	*6.3*
April	11.1	10.5	.6	*5.5*
May	11.2	10.6	.6	*5.2*
June	11.4	10.7	.7	*6.5*
July	12.6	11.7	.9	*6.8*
August	12.7	12.0	.7	*5.6*
September	11.9	11.4	.5	*4.5*
October	11.8	11.1	.7	*5.8*
November	12.2	11.6	.6	*5.3*
December	12.1	11.4	.7	*6.0*
1976 Avg.	11.7	11.0	.7	*5.9*

1/ Revised to latest Benchmarks. Totals may not add due to rounding.

2/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.

1976 MONTANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE BY LABOR MARKET AREA[1/]

Not Seasonally Adjusted

(In Thousands)

Month	Civilian Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment Number	Unemployment Rate[2/]
HELENA LMA				
January	23.6	21.5	2.1	*9.1*
February	23.6	21.7	1.9	*8.0*
March	23.9	22.0	1.9	*7.8*
April	23.9	22.4	1.5	*6.1*
May	23.9	22.5	1.4	*5.8*
June	24.2	22.3	1.9	*7.7*
July	23.4	21.9	1.5	*6.5*
August	23.2	21.8	1.4	*6.1*
September	23.2	21.9	1.3	*5.6*
October	23.7	22.4	1.3	*5.4*
November	23.6	22.2	1.4	*6.1*
December	23.2	21.8	1.4	*5.9*
1976 Avg.	23.6	22.0	1.6	*6.7*
KALISPELL LMA				
January	28.9	23.8	5.1	*17.5*
February	28.6	23.8	4.8	*16.8*
March	28.9	23.9	5.0	*17.2*
April	29.0	24.5	4.5	*15.6*
May	28.9	25.3	3.6	*12.5*
June	30.1	25.9	4.2	*13.9*
July	32.7	28.9	3.8	*11.6*
August	32.3	29.1	3.2	*10.0*
September	30.9	28.1	2.8	*9.1*
October	31.1	28.0	3.1	*9.9*
November	30.7	27.3	3.4	*11.2*
December	30.2	26.8	3.4	*11.4*
1976 Avg.	30.2	26.3	3.9	*13.0*
LEWISTOWN LMA				
January	10.1	9.1	1.0	*9.5*
February	10.0	9.1	.9	*9.1*
March	10.3	9.5	.8	*8.2*
April	10.2	9.7	.5	*5.1*
May	10.7	10.2	.5	*4.6*
June	10.8	10.2	.6	*5.9*
July	10.4	9.8	.6	*5.5*
August	10.8	10.2	.6	*5.2*
September	9.9	9.5	.4	*4.0*
October	9.8	9.4	.4	*4.5*
November	9.9	9.3	.6	*6.3*
December	9.8	9.0	.8	*8.6*
1976 Avg.	10.3	9.6	.7	*6.4*
MILES CITY LMA				
January	14.6	13.5	1.1	*7.6*
February	14.6	13.6	1.0	*6.7*
March	14.7	13.8	.9	*6.1*
April	15.3	14.7	.6	*4.2*
May	15.4	14.8	.6	*4.0*
June	15.2	14.4	.8	*5.6*
July	14.7	13.9	.8	*5.4*
August	14.9	14.3	.6	*4.1*
September	14.3	13.8	.5	*3.6*
October	14.0	13.4	.6	*4.1*
November	13.9	13.2	.7	*4.8*
December	13.7	12.7	1.0	*7.4*
1976 Avg.	14.7	13.9	.8	*5.3*
MISSOULA LMA				
January	43.0	37.6	5.4	*12.5*
February	42.8	37.8	5.0	*11.6*
March	43.4	38.5	4.9	*11.3*
April	43.3	39.0	4.3	*10.0*
May	43.0	39.4	3.6	*8.4*
June	44.4	39.9	4.5	*10.0*
July	43.8	39.7	4.1	*9.4*
August	43.7	40.0	3.7	*8.5*
September	43.0	39.5	3.5	*8.0*
October	42.3	38.8	3.5	*8.2*
November	41.7	37.9	3.8	*9.2*
December	42.8	38.5	4.3	*10.1*
1976 Avg.	43.1	38.9	4.2	*9.8*
SHELBY-CUT BANK LMA				
January	15.8	14.4	1.4	*9.0*
February	15.9	14.5	1.4	*8.8*
March	16.2	15.0	1.2	*7.6*
April	16.5	15.5	1.0	*5.9*
May	16.8	15.9	.9	*5.5*
June	18.6	17.4	1.2	*6.5*
July	17.5	16.4	1.1	*6.5*
August	17.9	16.8	1.1	*5.9*
September	16.0	15.3	.7	*4.4*
October	15.5	14.7	.8	*5.2*
November	15.3	14.4	.9	*6.0*
December	15.6	14.4	1.2	*7.5*
1976 Avg.	16.5	15.4	1.1	*6.6*

1/ Revised to latest Benchmarks. Totals may not add due to rounding.

2/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.

MONTANA FEMALE EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

(In Thousands)

1975

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ann. Avg.
Nonagricultural Wage & Salary .	88.6	88.9	91.2	92.5	95.0	97.6	95.4	95.3	97.3	96.9	98.2	98.4	94.6
Manufacturing	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.4	2.6	2.7	2.6	2.6	2.8	2.7	2.6	2.5
Nonmanufacturing	86.3	86.6	88.9	90.2	92.6	95.0	92.7	92.7	94.7	94.1	95.5	95.8	92.1
Mining	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3
Contract Construction	.8	.7	.7	.8	.8	.9	.9	.9	.9	.9	.9	.9	.8
Transport. & Public Utilities	3.3	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.4	3.5	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.5	3.5
Wholesale & Retail Trade	22.6	21.9	22.8	24.1	25.1	25.8	26.3	27.0	27.1	25.2	25.5	26.0	24.9
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate	5.9	5.9	6.0	6.0	6.1	6.2	6.3	6.3	6.4	6.3	6.2	6.4	6.2
Services	26.4	26.2	27.1	27.2	28.3	29.4	29.4	29.7	28.9	28.1	28.0	28.3	28.1
Government[1]/	27.0	28.2	28.6	28.5	28.6	28.9	25.9	24.9	27.5	29.7	31.0	30.4	28.3

1976

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ann. Avg.
Nonagricultural Wage & Salary .	95.5	95.4	96.5	97.6	98.7	98.9	99.0	98.4	99.5	101.2	102.2	102.6	98.8
Manufacturing	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.6	2.7	2.9	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.2	3.1	3.0	2.9
Mining	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3	.3
Contract Construction	.8	.8	.8	.8	.8	.8	.8	.8	.8	.8	.8	.7	.8
Transport. & Public Utilities	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5
Wholesale & Retail Trade	23.3	23.0	23.8	24.7	25.2	25.5	26.1	25.9	26.1	26.0	26.3	26.6	25.2
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate	6.4	6.4	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.6	6.7	6.8	6.8	6.7	6.7	6.8	6.6
Services	28.3	28.3	28.5	28.6	28.8	28.9	29.4	29.5	29.8	29.7	29.9	29.9	29.1
Government[1]/	30.3	30.5	30.6	30.6	30.8	30.3	29.1	28.5	29.2	31.0	31.6	31.8	30.4

1/ Includes all civilian employees of Federal, State, and Local Governments regardless of the activity in which the employee is engaged. Establishment Series began January, 1974. Revised to 1975 Benchmark.
Prepared by Montana Employment Security Division in cooperation with U. S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

NEW CORPORATIONS AND BUSINESSES IN MONTANA

By Industry and Area, for 1976

Industry	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	% of Total
Agriculture, Forestry, Fish	21	21	18	28	24	42	19	28	21	28	30	78	358	*10.4*
Mining	9	4	2	12	6	11	9	22	9	12	8	13	117	*3.4*
Construction	39	19	20	34	38	72	80	69	31	62	37	46	547	*15.8*
Manufacturing	10	6	7	5	15	23	19	23	6	13	4	8	139	*4.0*
Transp., Commun., Electric, Gas, Sanitary Services	5	7	3	5	9	18	8	20	7	13	11	15	121	*3.5*
Wholesale, Retail	50	27	23	45	41	98	73	114	66	98	61	86	782	*22.6*
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	30	19	22	12	18	22	28	37	23	26	34	32	303	*8.8*
Services	102	65	48	69	60	104	87	122	93	129	77	96	1,052	*30.5*
Government	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	*0*
Nonclassifiable Establishments	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17	1	3	11	3	35	*1.0*
	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓
STATE TOTAL	266	168	143	210	211	390	323	452	257	384	273	377	3,454	*100.0*
Area	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑	↑
Multi-County and Statewide	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cascade SMSA	35	20	6	20	18	20	26	46	22	35	26	36	310	*9.0*
Yellowstone SMSA	38	24	17	32	39	76	52	82	40	75	44	64	583	*16.9*
Anaconda-Butte LMA	20	12	18	22	13	33	28	22	23	23	18	22	254	*7.3*
Bozeman LMA	14	18	9	19	21	37	28	30	24	36	22	34	292	*8.5*
Glasgow LMA	12	18	7	10	6	13	10	16	9	13	15	12	141	*4.1*
Glendive LMA	11	4	6	9	6	9	9	14	4	15	8	15	110	*3.2*
Hardin LMA	7	2	4	12	6	14	7	14	3	7	5	9	90	*2.6*
Havre LMA	10	4	10	4	4	12	13	23	9	7	11	20	127	*3.7*
Helena LMA	19	10	5	22	18	22	20	31	24	19	20	23	233	*6.7*
Kalispell LMA	31	15	20	20	30	40	43	64	36	46	29	39	413	*12.0*
Lewistown LMA	6	2	3	3	4	10	7	6	5	8	9	10	73	*2.1*
Miles City LMA	11	8	9	7	9	13	12	29	11	23	15	16	163	*4.7*
Missoula LMA	38	24	22	20	26	83	56	57	30	52	33	50	491	*14.2*
Shelby LMA	14	7	7	10	11	8	12	18	17	25	18	27	174	*5.0*

MONTANA

U. S. Department of Labor
Employment and Training Administration

ANNUAL STATEWIDE LABOR FORCE REPORT FOR 1976

Table C
MARCH 1977

(in Thousands)

INDUSTRY	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	ANNUAL AVERAGE 1976	ANNUAL AVERAGE 1975	Percent Change 1975-1976
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS[1/]	324.8	323.6	328.3	328.6	330.4	343.0	341.6	341.4	330.1	329.0	328.5	326.0	331.3	330.5	.2
EMPLOYED PERSONS	291.2	292.1	297.3	302.8	308.1	314.1	315.3	318.0	309.9	308.0	305.2	301.3	305.3	303.6	.6
Persons Employed in Agriculture	28.8	28.8	31.5	35.0	37.1	41.1	40.1	44.7	35.6	32.9	29.2	25.9	34.2	34.8	-1.7
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	33.6	31.5	31.0	25.8	22.3	28.9	26.3	23.4	20.2	21.0	23.3	24.7	26.0	26.9	-3.3
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted[2/]	*10.3*	*9.7*	*9.5*	*7.9*	*6.8*	*8.4*	*7.7*	*6.9*	*6.1*	*6.4*	*7.1*	*7.6*	*7.8*	*8.1*	-
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted[2/]	*8.1*	*7.8*	*8.3*	*7.6*	*7.7*	*8.4*	*8.5*	*8.4*	*7.7*	*7.5*	*7.3*	*7.1*	*7.8*	*8.1*	-
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS (Establishment Data)	*236.1*	*237.0*	*239.4*	*241.4*	*243.1*	*244.7*	*246.2*	*245.1*	*247.1*	*248.1*	*248.5*	*247.8*	*243.7*	*240.0*	*1.5*
MANUFACTURING	*22.3*	*22.3*	*22.0*	*22.4*	*22.5*	*23.2*	*23.9*	*23.7*	*23.7*	*24.1*	*23.8*	*23.6*	*23.1*	*22.2*	*4.0*
Durable Goods	*14.0*	*14.0*	*14.1*	*14.4*	*14.4*	*15.0*	*15.3*	*15.1*	*15.0*	*14.9*	*14.9*	*14.8*	*14.6*	*14.2*	*2.8*
24 Lumber and Wood Products	*8.4*	*8.5*	*8.4*	*8.4*	*8.4*	*8.7*	*9.0*	*8.9*	*8.9*	*8.9*	*8.9*	*8.8*	*8.7*	*8.2*	*6.1*
33 Primary Metal Industries	*3.0*	*3.0*	*3.0*	*3.2*	*3.3*	*3.4*	*3.4*	*3.4*	*3.3*	*3.3*	*3.3*	*3.3*	*3.2*	*3.3*	*-3.0*
Other Durable Goods	*2.6*	*2.5*	*2.7*	*2.8*	*2.7*	*2.9*	*2.9*	*2.8*	*2.8*	*2.7*	*2.7*	*2.7*	*2.7*	*2.7*	*0*
Nondurable Goods	*8.3*	*8.3*	*7.9*	*8.0*	*8.1*	*8.2*	*8.6*	*8.8*	*8.7*	*9.2*	*8.9*	*8.8*	*8.5*	*8.0*	*6.2*
20 Food and Kindred Products	*3.8*	*3.7*	*3.3*	*3.4*	*3.4*	*3.6*	*3.7*	*3.7*	*3.8*	*4.4*	*4.1*	*4.1*	*3.8*	*3.7*	*2.7*
27 Printing and Publishing	*2.0*	*2.0*	*2.0*	*2.0*	*2.0*	*2.0*	*2.0*	*2.0*	*2.0*	*2.0*	*2.1*	*2.0*	*2.0*	*1.9*	*5.3*
29 Petroleum and Coal Products	*1.2*	*1.2*	*1.2*	*1.3*	*1.3*	*1.3*	*1.4*	*1.4*	*1.4*	*1.3*	*1.3*	*1.3*	*1.3*	*1.1*	*18.2*
Other Nondurable Goods	*1.3*	*1.4*	*1.4*	*1.3*	*1.4*	*1.3*	*1.5*	*1.5*	*1.5*	*1.5*	*1.4*	*1.4*	*1.4*	*1.3*	*7.7*
MINING	*6.3*	*6.0*	*6.1*	*6.1*	*6.0*	*6.2*	*6.2*	*6.2*	*6.4*	*6.2*	*5.9*	*6.1*	*6.2*	*6.7*	*-7.5*
10 Metal Mining	*2.6*	*2.4*	*2.4*	*2.4*	*2.4*	*2.3*	*2.3*	*2.4*	*2.5*	*2.4*	*2.3*	*2.4*	*2.4*	*3.1*	*-22.6*
12 & 14 Bitum. Coal, Quarrying, Non-Metal Mining	*1.6*	*1.5*	*1.6*	*1.7*	*1.8*	*1.7*	*1.8*	*1.8*	*1.8*	*1.8*	*1.6*	*1.5*	*1.6*	*1.6*	*0*
13 Oil and Gas Extraction	*2.1*	*2.1*	*2.1*	*2.0*	*2.0*	*2.2*	*2.3*	*2.2*	*2.3*	*2.2*	*2.0*	*2.2*	*2.2*	*2.0*	*9.1*
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	*10.1*	*10.4*	*10.4*	*11.1*	*11.2*	*11.2*	*11.8*	*11.9*	*11.9*	*12.1*	*11.9*	*10.9*	*11.3*	*12.4*	*-8.9*
15 General Building Contractors	*3.9*	*4.1*	*4.0*	*4.2*	*4.2*	*4.0*	*4.1*	*4.1*	*4.1*	*4.3*	*4.3*	*4.2*	*4.1*	*4.8*	*-16.3*
16 Heavy Construction Contractors	*1.8*	*1.7*	*2.1*	*2.6*	*2.8*	*3.0*	*3.1*	*3.0*	*2.9*	*2.9*	*2.7*	*2.0*	*2.6*	*2.8*	*-7.1*
17 Special Trade Contractors	*4.6*	*4.6*	*4.3*	*4.3*	*4.2*	*4.2*	*4.6*	*4.8*	*4.9*	*4.9*	*4.9*	*4.7*	*4.6*	*4.7*	*-2.1*
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	*18.5*	*18.4*	*18.6*	*18.8*	*19.0*	*19.5*	*19.7*	*19.8*	*19.7*	*19.4*	*19.1*	*19.1*	*19.1*	*19.2*	*-.5*
40 Railroad Transportation	*5.9*	*5.9*	*5.9*	*5.9*	*6.0*	*6.1*	*6.2*	*6.3*	*6.3*	*6.4*	*6.3*	*6.3*	*6.1*	*6.1*	*0*
41-47 Transportation, except Railroad	*5.3*	*5.3*	*5.5*	*5.6*	*5.7*	*5.8*	*5.8*	*5.9*	*5.9*	*5.6*	*5.4*	*5.3*	*5.6*	*5.8*	*-3.4*
48 & 49 Commun., Electric, Gas, Sanitary Services	*7.3*	*7.2*	*7.2*	*7.3*	*7.3*	*7.6*	*7.7*	*7.6*	*7.5*	*7.4*	*7.4*	*7.5*	*7.4*	*7.3*	*1.4*
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	*57.9*	*57.6*	*58.7*	*59.6*	*60.0*	*60.5*	*61.0*	*61.2*	*60.9*	*60.9*	*61.3*	*61.7*	*60.1*	*59.5*	*1.0*
Wholesale Trade	*11.7*	*12.0*	*11.9*	*12.0*	*12.1*	*12.2*	*12.4*	*12.7*	*12.3*	*12.5*	*12.5*	*12.4*	*12.2*	*11.9*	*2.5*
Retail Trade	*46.2*	*45.6*	*46.8*	*47.6*	*47.9*	*48.3*	*48.6*	*48.5*	*48.6*	*48.4*	*48.8*	*49.3*	*47.9*	*47.6*	*.6*
53 & 56 General Merchandise, Apparel, Accessories	*8.0*	*7.8*	*7.7*	*7.9*	*8.1*	*8.4*	*8.8*	*8.2*	*8.1*	*8.1*	*8.2*	*8.7*	*8.2*	*8.2*	*0*
54 Food Stores	*6.4*	*6.4*	*6.3*	*6.4*	*6.3*	*6.5*	*6.7*	*6.8*	*6.7*	*6.6*	*6.7*	*6.7*	*6.5*	*6.4*	*1.6*
55 Automotive Dealers, Service Stations	*8.2*	*8.1*	*8.1*	*8.1*	*8.2*	*8.2*	*8.2*	*8.2*	*8.3*	*8.2*	*8.4*	*8.3*	*8.2*	*8.1*	*1.2*
58 Eating and Drinking Places	*13.8*	*13.7*	*14.9*	*15.4*	*15.4*	*15.3*	*15.3*	*15.3*	*15.4*	*15.4*	*15.4*	*15.4*	*15.1*	*15.0*	*.7*
52, 57, 59 Bldg. Mat., Farm Equip., Furn., Misc.	*9.8*	*8.6*	*9.8*	*9.8*	*9.9*	*9.9*	*9.8*	*10.0*	*10.1*	*10.1*	*10.1*	*10.2*	*9.9*	*9.9*	*0*
FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE	*10.2*	*10.2*	*10.4*	*10.3*	*10.4*	*10.5*	*10.6*	*10.6*	*10.7*	*10.6*	*10.6*	*10.7*	*10.4*	*10.2*	*2.0*
SERVICES	*46.1*	*46.4*	*47.1*	*46.9*	*47.1*	*47.1*	*48.4*	*48.4*	*49.0*	*49.0*	*49.0*	*49.1*	*47.8*	*44.9*	*6.5*
70 Hotels and other Lodging Places	*5.1*	*5.1*	*5.4*	*5.4*	*5.7*	*5.6*	*6.2*	*6.4*	*6.4*	*6.4*	*6.3*	*6.5*	*5.9*	*5.9*	*0*
72 Personal Services	*2.4*	*2.3*	*2.4*	*2.4*	*2.4*	*2.4*	*2.5*	*2.5*	*2.5*	*2.5*	*2.5*	*2.5*	*2.4*	*2.5*	*-4.2*
80 Medical and other Health Services	*15.0*	*15.2*	*15.2*	*15.2*	*15.4*	*15.6*	*15.8*	*15.9*	*16.1*	*16.0*	*16.1*	*16.0*	*15.6*	*14.2*	*9.9*
Other Services	*23.6*	*23.8*	*24.1*	*23.9*	*23.6*	*23.5*	*23.9*	*23.6*	*24.0*	*24.1*	*24.1*	*24.1*	*23.9*	*22.3*	*7.2*
GOVERNMENT	*64.7*	*65.7*	*66.1*	*66.2*	*66.9*	*66.5*	*64.6*	*63.3*	*64.8*	*65.8*	*66.9*	*66.6*	*65.7*	*64.9*	*1.2*
91 Federal Government	*13.2*	*13.1*	*13.1*	*13.3*	*13.8*	*14.4*	*14.4*	*14.7*	*13.9*	*13.3*	*13.5*	*13.1*	*13.7*	*14.2*	*-3.5*
92 State Colleges and Universities	*8.9*	*9.0*	*9.1*	*9.1*	*9.1*	*9.0*	*9.2*	*8.9*	*9.0*	*9.0*	*9.1*	*9.2*	*8.1*	*8.6*	*5.8*
92 Other State Government	*10.2*	*10.4*	*10.4*	*10.5*	*10.5*	*10.4*	*10.5*	*10.3*	*10.4*	*10.3*	*10.6*	*10.5*	*10.4*	*9.9*	*5.0*
93 Local Education	*21.0*	*21.5*	*21.7*	*21.5*	*21.6*	*21.1*	*20.0*	*19.0*	*20.4*	*21.4*	*21.8*	*21.8*	*20.9*	*20.7*	*1.0*
93 Other Local Government	*11.4*	*11.7*	*11.8*	*11.8*	*11.9*	*11.6*	*10.5*	*10.4*	*11.1*	*11.8*	*11.9*	*12.0*	*11.6*	*11.5*	*.9*

1/ Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes nonagricultural self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers.
2/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers. Revised to 1976 Benchmarks.
Produced in cooperation with the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, by Research and Analysis, Employment Security Division, Helena, Montana.

GREAT FALLS STANDARD METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA

(CASCADE COUNTY, MONTANA)

Annual Labor Force Report
(In Thousands)

1975 1976

	1975 Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	1975 Avg.
1. Civilian Labor Force	31.1	31.2	31.8	32.5	32.7	33.7	33.7	33.7	33.3	33.0	32.9	32.8	32.7
2. Unemployment	2.6	3.0	2.8	2.7	2.4	2.8	2.7	2.5	2.4	2.7	2.6	2.8	2.7
Percent of Labor Force[1]	*8.3*	*9.7*	*8.7*	*8.3*	*7.3*	*8.4*	*8.1*	*7.4*	*7.3*	*8.1*	*7.9*	*8.5*	*8.2*
3. Employment, Total	28.5	28.2	29.0	29.8	30.3	30.9	31.0	31.2	30.9	30.3	30.3	30.0	30.0
(a) Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Adjusted for Dual Job Holders (Residence Data)	25.2	25.0	25.5	26.2	26.4	26.8	26.8	26.8	27.0	26.7	26.6	26.7	26.3
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY (Establishment Data)	*26.1*	*25.8*	*26.3*	*26.9*	*27.2*	*27.7*	*27.6*	*27.8*	*27.9*	*27.5*	*27.6*	*27.6*	*27.2*
MANUFACTURING	*1.6*	*1.7*	*1.7*	*1.7*	*1.6*	*1.7*	*1.7*	*1.7*	*1.7*	*1.7*	*1.8*	*1.7*	*1.7*
NONMANUFACTURING	*24.3*	*24.1*	*24.6*	*25.2*	*25.6*	*26.0*	*25.9*	*26.1*	*26.2*	*25.8*	*25.8*	*25.9*	*25.5*
Contract Construction	*1.3*	*1.2*	*1.2*	*1.4*	*1.5*	*1.5*	*1.6*	*1.7*	*1.7*	*1.6*	*1.6*	*1.4*	*1.5*
Transportation and Public Utilities	*1.9*	*1.9*	*1.9*	*1.8*	*2.0*	*2.0*	*2.0*	*2.0*	*2.0*	*2.0*	*1.8*	*1.8*	*1.9*
Wholesale and Retail Trade	*7.7*	*7.6*	*7.9*	*8.2*	*8.3*	*8.5*	*8.6*	*8.8*	*8.6*	*8.3*	*8.3*	*8.6*	*8.3*
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	*1.6*	*1.8*	*1.8*	*1.8*	*1.9*	*1.9*	*1.9*	*1.8*	*1.9*	*1.9*	*1.9*	*1.9*	*1.9*
Services and Mining	*5.7*	*..7*	*5.8*	*5.9*	*5.9*	*6.0*	*6.2*	*6.3*	*6.2*	*6.1*	*6.2*	*6.2*	*6.0*
Government	*5.9*	*5.9*	*6.0*	*6.0*	*6.0*	*6.1*	*5.6*	*5.6*	*5.8*	*5.9*	*6.0*	*6.0*	*5.9*
(b) All other Nonagricultural Employment[2]	2.2	2.1	2.3	2.3	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.4	2.3	2.4	2.3	2.3
(c) Agriculture	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.9	1.5	1.3	1.3	1.0	1.4
4. Persons involved in labor/management disputes[3]	0	0	.1	.1	0	0	0	0	0	*	*	*	*

	1976 Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	1976 Avg.
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS[1]	32.4	32.2	32.9	32.5	33.5	35.0	34.4	34.2	33.5	33.8	33.7	33.5	33.5
EMPLOYED PERSONS	29.2	29.3	29.9	29.9	31.2	31.7	31.5	31.7	31.5	31.6	31.4	31.3	30.9
Persons Employed in Agriculture	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.8	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.0	1.4
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	3.2	2.9	3.0	2.6	2.3	3.3	2.9	2.5	2.0	2.2	2.3	2.2	2.6
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted[2]	*9.8*	*9.1*	*9.2*	*7.9*	*6.9*	*9.3*	*8.3*	*7.2*	*6.1*	*6.6*	*6.8*	*6.5*	*7.8*
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted[2]	*8.0*	*7.7*	*8.8*	*8.3*	*7.3*	*8.8*	*8.4*	*8.0*	*6.9*	*7.4*	*7.3*	*6.8*	*7.8*
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS (Establishment Data)	*28.9*	*27.0*	*27.4*	*27.3*	*28.4*	*28.7*	*28.6*	*28.8*	*28.8*	*29.0*	*28.9*	*28.9*	*28.2*
Manufacturing	*1.7*	*1.7*	*1.7*	*1.7*	*1.7*	*1.8*	*1.8*	*1.8*	*1.7*	*1.7*	*1.8*	*1.7*	*1.7*
Contract Construction	*1.3*	*1.2*	*1.3*	*1.4*	*1.5*	*1.5*	*1.7*	*1.7*	*1.8*	*1.7*	*1.7*	*1.7*	*1.5*
Transportation and Public Utilities	*1.8*	*1.8*	*1.8*	*1.3*	*2.0*	*2.0*	*2.0*	*2.0*	*2.0*	*2.0*	*2.0*	*1.9*	*1.9*
Wholesale and Retail Trade	*8.3*	*8.1*	*8.3*	*8.5*	*8.8*	*8.7*	*8.7*	*8.8*	*8.8*	*8.8*	*8.7*	*8.9*	*8.6*
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	*1.9*	*1.9*	*1.9*	*1.9*	*1.9*	*2.0*	*2.0*	*2.0*	*2.0*	*2.0*	*2.0*	*2.0*	*2.0*
Services and Mining	*6.2*	*6.3*	*6.3*	*6.4*	*6.6*	*6.6*	*6.5*	*6.6*	*6.8*	*6.9*	*6.8*	*6.8*	*6.6*
Government	*5.9*	*6.1*	*6.1*	*6.1*	*6.1*	*8.1*	*5.6*	*5.7*	*5.7*	*5.9*	*5.9*	*6.9*	*5.9*

1/ *Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers.*
2/ *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers. Revised to 1976 Benchmarks.*
Produced in cooperation with U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, by Research and Analysis, Employment Security Division, Helena, Montana.

BILLINGS STANDARD METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA

(YELLOWSTONE COUNTY, MONTANA)

Annual Labor Force Report
(In Thousands)

1975 1976

	1975 Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	1975 Avg.
1. Civilian Labor Force	45.4	45.1	45.6	46.8	47.1	49.0	49.5	49.2	48.5	48.4	49.1	48.4	47.7
2. Unemployment	3.4	3.6	3.6	3.4	2.6	3.4	3.2	3.1	2.9	2.8	2.9	3.1	3.2
Percent of Labor Force[1/]	*7.6*	*8.0*	*7.8*	*7.3*	*5.6*	*7.0*	*6.5*	*6.2*	*5.9*	*5.8*	*5.8*	*6.5*	*6.7*
3. Employment, Total	42.0	41.5	42.0	43.4	44.5	45.6	46.3	46.1	45.6	45.6	46.2	45.3	44.5
(a) Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Adjusted for Dual Job Holders (Residence Data)	36.8	36.3	36.5	37.7	38.4	39.2	39.8	39.4	39.5	39.6	40.3	39.8	38.6
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY (Establishment Data)	*36.9*	*36.5*	*36.6*	*37.9*	*38.6*	*39.5*	*39.9*	*39.7*	*39.6*	*39.7*	*40.7*	*40.0*	*38.9*
MANUFACTURING	*3.7*	*3.4*	*2.8*	*3.0*	*3.3*	*3.3*	*3.4*	*3.4*	*3.3*	*3.5*	*3.7*	*3.5*	*3.4*
NONMANUFACTURING	*33.2*	*33.1*	*33.7*	*34.9*	*35.3*	*36.2*	*36.5*	*36.3*	*36.3*	*36.2*	*37.0*	*36.5*	*35.4*
Contract Construction	*2.0*	*1.7*	*1.8*	*1.8*	*1.9*	*1.9*	*2.2*	*2.3*	*2.3*	*2.2*	*2.1*	*2.0*	*2.0*
Transportation and Public Utilities	*3.4*	*3.4*	*3.4*	*3.4*	*3.5*	*3.6*	*3.6*	*3.6*	*3.6*	*3.4*	*3.4*	*3.3*	*3.5*
Wholesale and Retail Trade	*11.5*	*11.4*	*11.7*	*12.4*	*12.6*	*12.9*	*12.8*	*12.9*	*13.3*	*13.0*	*13.0*	*13.3*	*12.6*
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	*1.8*	*1.8*	*1.9*	*1.9*	*1.9*	*2.0*	*2.0*	*2.0*	*2.0*	*2.0*	*2.0*	*2.0*	*1.9*
Services and Mining	*7.8*	*7.8*	*7.7*	*8.0*	*8.0*	*8.2*	*8.8*	*8.8*	*8.4*	*8.3*	*8.2*	*8.2*	*8.1*
Government	*6.8*	*7.2*	*7.2*	*7.4*	*7.4*	*7.6*	*7.3*	*6.9*	*6.7*	*7.3*	*8.3*	*7.7*	*7.3*
(b) All other Nonagricultural Employment[2/]	4.0	3.9	4.1	4.2	4.4	4.5	4.6	4.5	4.3	4.4	4.6	4.3	4.3
(c) Agriculture	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.7	1.9	1.9	2.2	1.8	1.6	1.3	1.2	1.6
4. Persons involved in labor/management disputes[3/]	*	.1	.2	.1	0	0	0	0	.2	.2	0	0	.1

	1976 Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	1976 Avg.
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS[1/]	47.4	47.1	47.5	48.3	48.1	50.7	50.4	49.8	50.0	50.7	51.0	50.8	49.3
EMPLOYED PERSONS	43.7	43.8	44.1	45.4	45.8	47.2	47.2	47.1	47.6	48.3	48.5	48.0	46.4
Persons Employed in Agriculture	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.6	1.7	1.9	1.8	2.1	1.6	1.5	1.3	1.2	1.6
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	3.7	3.3	3.4	2.9	2.3	3.5	3.2	2.7	2.4	2.4	2.5	2.8	2.9
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted[2/]	*7.9*	*7.0*	*7.2*	*5.9*	*4.8*	*6.9*	*6.3*	*5.5*	*4.7*	*4.6*	*4.9*	*5.6*	*5.9*
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted[2/]	*6.6*	*6.0*	*6.4*	*6.2*	*5.5*	*6.5*	*6.2*	*5.9*	*5.4*	*5.5*	*5.4*	*5.7*	*5.9*
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS (Establishment Data)	*38.5*	*38.6*	*38.8*	*38.4*	*39.4*	*40.5*	*40.6*	*40.3*	*41.3*	*42.1*	*42.3*	*42.0*	*40.3*
Manufacturing	*3.5*	*3.4*	*3.1*	*3.3*	*3.4*	*3.5*	*3.6*	*3.7*	*3.7*	*4.2*	*4.0*	*3.9*	*3.6*
Contract Construction	*1.8*	*1.9*	*2.0*	*2.0*	*2.0*	*2.2*	*2.2*	*2.2*	*2.3*	*2.3*	*2.3*	*2.2*	*2.1*
Transportation and Public Utilities	*3.3*	*3.2*	*3.2*	*3.3*	*3.3*	*3.4*	*3.5*	*3.5*	*3.4*	*3.4*	*3.4*	*3.3*	*3.4*
Wholesale and Retail Trade	*12.6*	*12.8*	*12.8*	*12.9*	*13.0*	*13.2*	*13.4*	*13.4*	*13.2*	*13.6*	*13.8*	*13.7*	*13.2*
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	*2.0*	*2.0*	*2.0*	*2.1*	*2.0*	*2.1*	*2.1*	*2.1*	*2.1*	*2.1*	*2.1*	*2.1*	*2.1*
Services and Mining	*8.1*	*8.1*	*8.2*	*8.3*	*8.3*	*8.3*	*8.6*	*8.5*	*8.6*	*8.4*	*8.4*	*8.3*	*8.3*
Government	*7.2*	*7.4*	*7.5*	*7.5*	*7.4*	*7.8*	*7.2*	*6.8*	*8.0*	*8.1*	*8.3*	*9.5*	*7.8*

1/ Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers.
2/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers. Revised to 1976 Benchmarks.
Produced in cooperation with the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, by Research and Analysis, Employment Security Division, Helena, Montana.

MONTANA

HOURS AND EARNINGS SERIES BY MONTHS

Average Hours and Earnings in Private, Nonagricultural Industries 1976 (1)

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Avg.
TOTAL PRIVATE	$165.89	$164.98	$163.70	$165.50	$168.84	$170.88	$172.67	$175.69	$178.92	$177.79	$175.02	$175.78	$171.24
MANUFACTURING	214.50	214.89	219.82	221.18	231.45	241.16	235.78	238.40	260.65	258.92	248.12	252.62	236.01
Durable Goods	216.76	213.40	213.17	214.86	227.83	241.20	233.02	226.91	246.69	252.78	249.90	256.08	232.36
Primary Metal Industries	259.38	260.69	268.26	266.06	270.95	295.29	277.50	280.87	289.17	287.52	284.20	279.10	276.83
Nondurable Goods	208.31	213.21	249.28	234.60	240.47	242.02	242.35	251.29	256.74	241.72	241.20	243.39	239.01
Food and Kindred Products	191.38	189.26	219.40	225.52	225.61	226.46	228.80	244.49	237.76	229.82	225.08	223.17	222.38
MINING	303.52	286.88	289.40	290.50	297.19	308.58	309.88	298.92	299.88	317.84	318.69	332.55	304.56
Metal Mining	315.90	276.86	280.30	291.41	287.45	303.17	310.06	301.25	295.50	312.75	301.79	338.10	301.07
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	306.93	298.65	291.47	301.43	313.24	310.76	320.78	327.58	337.59	350.17	329.16	329.73	317.54
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	262.44	262.70	253.53	254.59	259.94	260.99	265.86	276.02	277.47	273.77	276.22	284.41	267.03
Commun., Elec., Gas, San. Services	235.01	227.57	216.60	223.22	226.69	233.11	234.21	242.31	254.16	249.02	250.04	256.28	237.18
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	134.97	136.35	137.80	138.52	139.87	142.36	140.73	145.84	142.96	141.75	140.88	140.54	140.58
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	121.81	125.92	119.60	126.55	124.10	121.97	124.20	126.22	123.87	124.91	126.02	127.04	124.10
SERVICES	106.59	107.57	106.55	107.17	107.12	107.22	109.31	107.57	110.62	107.28	107.51	107.22	107.61

AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS

TOTAL PRIVATE	36.3	36.1	35.9	35.9	36.0	35.6	36.2	36.3	36.0	35.7	35.5	35.8	35.9
MANUFACTURING	38.1	37.9	38.7	38.6	39.7	39.6	38.4	39.8	40.6	42.1	41.7	42.6	39.8
Durable Goods	38.5	38.8	38.9	38.3	39.9	39.8	38.2	39.6	41.6	42.7	42.5	43.7	40.2
Primary Metal Industries	39.6	39.8	40.4	37.9	40.2	38.3	37.0	37.3	37.8	40.1	40.6	40.1	39.1
Nondurable Goods	37.0	35.3	38.0	39.1	39.1	38.6	38.9	40.4	38.1	40.9	40.0	39.9	38.8
Food and Kindred Products	37.6	34.1	38.9	40.2	39.1	39.8	40.0	42.3	36.3	43.2	41.3	41.1	39.5
MINING	45.1	42.5	41.7	41.5	42.7	44.4	43.4	42.4	42.0	43.9	43.3	45.0	43.2
Metal Mining	45.0	40.3	40.8	42.0	41.3	42.7	42.3	39.9	39.4	41.7	40.4	44.9	41.7
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	39.0	37.9	38.1	39.3	39.6	38.7	39.7	39.9	40.5	41.1	39.0	39.3	39.3
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	41.2	41.5	40.5	40.4	41.0	41.1	42.2	42.4	41.6	40.8	41.6	42.6	41.4
Commun., Elec., Gas, San. Services	39.9	38.9	38.0	39.3	39.7	40.4	41.6	41.0	40.6	40.1	40.2	42.5	40.2
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	35.8	35.6	35.7	35.7	35.5	35.5	35.9	36.1	35.3	35.0	34.7	34.7	35.5
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	36.8	37.7	36.8	36.5	36.5	36.3	36.0	36.8	35.8	36.1	35.8	36.4	36.5
SERVICES	32.3	32.4	31.9	31.8	31.6	30.9	31.5	31.0	30.9	29.8	29.7	29.7	31.1

AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS

TOTAL PRIVATE	$4.57	$4.57	$4.56	$4.61	$4.69	$4.80	$4.77	$4.84	$4.97	$4.98	$4.93	$4.91	$4.77
MANUFACTURING	5.63	5.67	5.68	5.73	5.83	6.09	6.14	5.99	6.42	6.15	5.95	5.93	5.93
Durable Goods	5.63	5.50	5.48	5.61	5.71	6.03	6.10	5.73	5.93	5.92	5.88	5.86	5.78
Primary Metal Industries	6.55	6.55	6.64	7.02	6.74	7.71	7.50	7.53	7.65	7.17	7.00	6.96	7.08
Nondurable Goods	5.63	6.04	6.56	6.00	6.15	6.27	6.23	6.22	6.72	5.91	6.03	6.10	6.16
Food and Kindred Products	5.09	5.55	5.64	5.61	5.77	5.69	5.72	5.78	6.55	5.32	5.45	5.43	5.63
MINING	6.73	6.75	6.94	7.00	6.96	6.95	7.14	7.05	7.14	7.24	7.36	7.39	7.05
Metal Mining	7.02	6.87	6.87	6.94	6.96	7.10	7.33	7.55	7.50	7.50	7.47	7.53	7.22
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	7.87	7.88	7.65	7.67	7.91	8.03	8.08	8.21	8.34	8.52	8.44	8.39	8.08
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	6.37	6.33	6.26	6.24	6.34	6.35	6.30	6.51	6.67	6.71	6.64	6.68	6.45
Commun., Elec., Gas, San. Services	5.89	5.85	5.70	5.68	5.71	5.77	5.63	5.91	6.26	6.21	6.22	6.03	5.90
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	3.77	3.83	3.86	3.88	3.94	4.01	3.92	4.04	4.05	4.05	4.06	4.05	3.96
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	3.31	3.34	3.25	3.33	3.40	3.36	3.45	3.43	3.46	3.46	3.52	3.49	3.40
SERVICES	3.30	3.32	3.34	3.37	3.39	3.47	3.47	3.47	3.58	3.60	3.62	3.61	3.46

(1) *Based on reports from cooperating establishments, and covers both full and part-time production and related workers who worked during or received pay for any part of the weekly pay period including the 12th of each month. Figures are average of gross earnings including overtime and premium pay. Selected Industries series began January 1950; Total Private Sector series began January 1969. Prepared by U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.*

LABOR TURNOVER RATES IN SELECTED MONTANA INDUSTRIES 1976

(Per 100 Employees by Calendar Year)

MANUFACTURING

	1976 Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	1976 Avg.
Total Accessions	2.8	1.5	1.5	4.5	3.6	5.4	3.7	3.1	5.4	4.4	2.3	2.3	3.4
New Hires	2.1	1.1	0.9	3.6	3.1	4.7	3.3	2.8	5.0	4.0	1.9	1.7	2.8
Total Separations	2.5	1.9	1.0	2.5	2.5	2.6	3.4	3.5	4.4	3.1	3.9	3.3	2.9
Quits	1.6	0.6	0.6	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.5	2.3	3.3	1.8	1.6	1.2	1.6
Layoffs	0.4	0.9	0.1	0.4	0.5	0.5	1.1	0.7	0.4	0.5	1.8	1.6	0.7

DURABLE GOODS

Total Accessions	2.8	1.5	1.7	4.4	3.7	5.7	3.1	2.9	3.5	2.0	1.6	1.8	2.9
New Hires	1.8	0.9	0.8	3.2	3.2	4.7	2.7	2.6	3.2	1.6	1.2	1.2	2.3
Total Separations	2.5	1.1	1.2	2.2	3.0	2.9	3.3	3.5	4.5	2.3	2.6	2.7	2.6
Quits	1.2	0.6	0.7	1.4	1.6	1.7	1.4	2.4	3.4	1.2	1.1	1.0	1.5
Layoffs	0.6	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.6	0.5	1.1	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.9	1.4	0.6

PRIMARY METAL INDUSTRIES

Total Accessions	1.6	1.1	3.6	5.0	2.9	7.8	1.4	1.3	1.8	2.4	1.6	2.9	2.8
New Hires	0.1	0.1	0.3	2.2	2.0	4.4	0.4	0.4	0.9	0.9	0.7	0.9	1.1
Total Separations	3.5	2.3	0.8	1.0	3.1	2.3	3.7	2.9	3.8	1.0	2.7	1.1	2.4
Quits	0.7	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.5	1.0	2.9	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.7
Layoffs	1.3	0.0	0.0	0.1	1.8	1.0	1.6	1.4	0.5	0.0	1.7	*	0.8

NONDURABLE GOODS

Total Accessions	3.0	1.5	1.1	4.7	3.5	5.0	4.7	3.4	8.6	8.2	3.4	3.2	4.2
New Hires	2.6	1.4	1.0	4.5	2.9	4.6	4.3	3.1	8.2	8.0	3.0	2.5	3.8
Total Separations	2.6	3.2	0.9	2.8	1.3	2.2	3.5	3.7	4.3	4.4	6.0	4.2	3.3
Quits	1.9	0.8	0.4	1.2	0.9	1.0	1.8	2.2	3.3	2.8	2.4	1.7	1.7
Layoffs	0.3	2.2	0.3	0.9	0.2	0.5	1.2	1.0	0.4	0.8	3.0	1.8	1.0

MINING

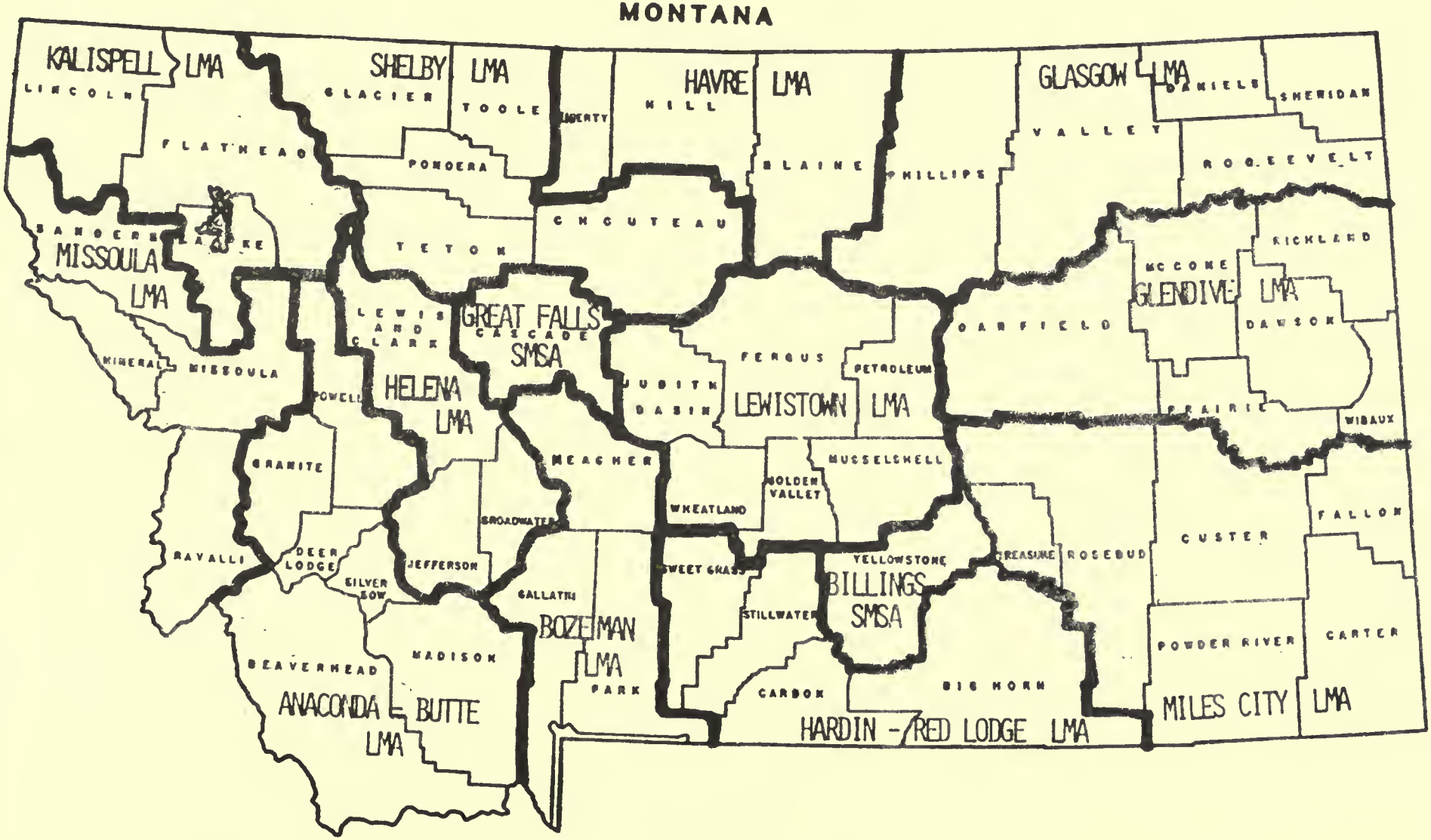
Total Accessions	1.6	2.1	2.0	2.5	2.7	4.2	3.0	2.5	5.3	1.8	0.7	2.4	2.6
New Hires	0.5	0.9	1.4	0.6	1.1	2.0	1.4	1.6	2.3	0.6	0.4	1.2	1.2
Total Separations	2.4	3.8	2.2	1.4	5.1	1.9	2.7	5.4	2.1	2.5	6.2	1.1	3.1
Quits	0.3	0.5	0.7	0.4	0.6	1.0	1.1	0.8	0.6	1.8	1.4	0.3	0.8
Layoffs	1.4	2.5	0.8	0.1	3.6	0.3	0.9	2.8	0.9	0.1	4.3	0.2	1.5

METAL MINING

Total Accessions	1.6	1.1	1.5	1.6	2.0	2.9	3.0	2.3	0.9	1.2	1.1	1.2	1.7
New Hires	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1
Total Separations	3.1	3.0	1.6	1.6	1.8	1.8	1.3	2.1	2.0	1.5	1.5	0.9	1.8
Quits	0.4	0.3	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.5	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.2
Layoffs	1.3	1.3	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.7	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.4

* *Less than .05* *Prepared by U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Series began January 1959*

LABOR MARKET AREAS
IN
MONTANA



EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION
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OFFICIAL BUSINESS

The Montana State Employment Service maintains 23 local employment offices in the principal cities of Montana. You are invited to call on any of these offices for assistance in filling positions in your organization, additional labor market information, and for other services in connection with your employment problems.